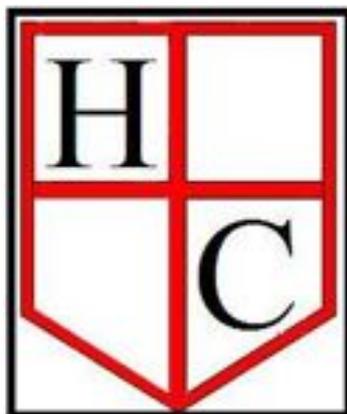


Holy Cross Catholic
Primary School,
Catford.



School Prospectus
2013 -14

***I would like to warmly welcome you to our lovely School!
Holy Cross is a Catholic School and our faith is at the heart of all we do.
All staff work in partnership with parents to ensure that our children are
happy, well behaved, motivated and academically fulfil their true
potential. We are constantly striving to raise standards and are not
complacent about our successes. Holy Cross is more than just a school,
it is a community, an oasis in the middle of South East London where
children are cherished and nurtured and high expectations are held and
met by all.***

***Miss Mary Collins
Headteacher***

The School

Here at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School children are taught to live out the teachings of Jesus Christ. They learn to work independently, to share and to respect each other's needs as they move around and work alongside each other. They are nurtured throughout their years here with the Gospel values of love, faith, justice, peace and hope. We aim to instil in our children the importance of community so they are respectful and appreciative of those around them.

Holy Cross School was opened in January 1975 to serve the Parish of Holy Cross. It is a very well maintained building situated between Sangley Road and Culverley Road in Catford. We have an open and friendly atmosphere within the School and parents are encouraged to become active in the life of the School through being a member of the PTA, volunteer helper or just a familiar face to greet each day.



The Parish

Holy Cross School is an important part of Holy Cross Parish. Together they form a wonderful community. In School children, parents, Parish Priest, Governors and staff work together to help the children develop an understanding of their faith. Children join with the Parish to celebrate Mass on a regular basis. Some parishioners are weekly volunteers to hear children read and we have a particularly special relationship with the Diamond Club who get previews of all our concerts and are the judges of our annual daffodil competition!



Parents

We are very proud of the relationship we have with the parents in our School. We are a close community which benefits from mutual respect, trust and understanding. We all have the good of the children at the centre of all decisions we make and all the work we do. We like to work together with parents to ensure that children fulfil their true potential.

We encourage parents to come and see staff if they have any concerns or worries about their child or if there is something we should know about; a change in family circumstance, news that may impact on the child. We have an open door policy and parents are welcome to come and see teachers before or after School and either speak then or arrange a convenient appointment.

Each term the class teachers formally report to you on your child's progress. This is during Parents Evening in the Autumn Term, Academic Review Day in the Spring Term and a written report in the Summer Term. During the year all children will take part in Class Assemblies, Masses and concerts which parents are invited to attend.

Our Home School Agreement sets out the responsibilities of parents, school and children in detail. This is given to all parents when their child comes into the School and is reviewed annually.

There are several ways in which parents can help support their child:

- Sharing books and listening to your child read.
- Supporting any homework set by the class teacher.
- Talking to your child about general things helps improve communication and vocabulary.
- Accompanying children on class outings.

If you have any time to spare and would like to help us in any way we would be delighted to welcome you in the school.

The Governing Body

Our Governing Body consists of a number of volunteers as well as the Headteacher and the Parish Priest. The Governors help to appoint staff, decide on policies for the School, deal with admissions and appeals as well as a multitude of other important functions. The Governors work closely with the Headteacher offering support and advice.



Nursery

Our Nursery offers a wonderful array of activities for all children. The outside area includes climbing equipment as well as a play house and a range of bikes and scooters. Inside the children have a variety of options as well as the opportunity to use an interactive whiteboard. They happily choose whichever activity they wish and are guided by the teacher and Nursery Practitioner to undertake set tasks. When settling children in parents must be prepared to stay with them until they are happy. We do not have a uniform in our Nursery but children are expected to wear comfortable, practical clothes.

Children who attend our Nursery do not automatically get a place in the school.

Parent and Teacher Association (PTA)

We have a very active and enthusiastic PTA. All parents automatically become a member of the PTA as their child starts at Holy Cross, we encourage you all to support the wide range of events which are organised from quiz nights to children's discos to the Summer Fete. These all raise money to support projects within School and they also help us to maintain the strong community spirit we so enjoy here.

School Uniform

Our school uniform is simple and practical and may be bought at any shop the parent chooses.

Girls

- Winter - White blouse, grey skirt or tunic, navy blue knitted v-neck pullover or cardigan, school tie, navy or grey tights/white socks.
- Summer - red and white gingham dress made in any style, white socks (Reception to Year 6).
- Girls in Year 6 **only** may continue to wear winter uniform or a summer dress as above. Girls may wear grey flannel trousers from October half term until the end of the Spring term.

Boys

- Winter - White shirt, grey trousers, navy blue knitted v-neck pullover and school tie
- Summer - White short sleeved cotton shirt, tie and grey shorts or long trousers



School ties may be bought from the school for £3.50 each. Footwear must be black or navy, strong and sensible in style, no boots allowed. Trainers should only be worn for games or during lunchtime in the playground. Open toed sandals must not be worn in school. Coats can be any colour but denim jackets or tracksuit tops are not suitable. All clothing must be marked with the child's name so that lost clothing may be traced and returned quickly. Hairstyle is to be conventional in style, length and colour. Hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back and no coloured hair beads may be worn.

School bags may be bought from the School Office – Red Infant Bag £3.50 each, Blue Junior Bag £4.50 each, P.E. Bag £3.00 each. School hats are also available from £3.00 each.

No jewellery is permitted. Watches are worn at the owner's risk. Teachers cannot be held responsible for items of value brought to school. If mobile phones are brought to school they must be handed in to the office on arrival.

For PE all children, both Infant and Junior, are expected to wear a plain white T-shirt plain navy shorts and plain navy tracksuit bottoms for outdoor games in the winter. All Infant children need elasticated or velcro fastening plimsolls for outdoor games. Juniors may wear trainers. These should be kept in a drawstring bag in school. In warm weather children may wear a Holy Cross School baseball cap.



Medical

If children have slight accidents in the school they are treated by a trained First Aider. We do not apply ointments or lotions in case of allergy, and are not allowed to give any form of medication. If an accident appears to be serious parents will be notified in case hospital treatment is necessary. Parents will be notified, by phone, if a child has a bump to the head. For other injuries we will send a note. All accidents are recorded in the accident book.

If your child becomes ill we will phone you. We only send for parents to come and collect their children if we think it is necessary. It is therefore very important that the school has a telephone number where parents or carers may be contacted during school hours. If this changes we must be notified immediately.

YOU MUST NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY OF ANY CHANGE TO YOUR ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER



Absences

If your child is absent from school please telephone the School by 9:30am. If your child has an appointment during the day a known adult will need to collect them and sign them out at the office. Holidays are not allowed during term time. A child will only be allowed time off from School in exceptional circumstances.

Curriculum

Holy Cross is a Catholic School where we provide a Catholic Education in a Christian environment. Pupils and staff are challenged to achieve their potential, intellectually, socially and spiritually. We aim to provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum that meets the needs of each individual child. We encourage children to work independently, to develop skills and establish concepts in order to have access to the National Curriculum. We build on the children's own experiences so that they grow in self-esteem and respect for others.

Extra Curricular Activities

Holy Cross School has a wide variety of After School and Lunchtime clubs including; football, multi sports, netball, French, chess, art, craft, film and

gardening. These are run throughout the year and each term children have the opportunity to change their club/s.



Inclusion

We have an Inclusion Manager in School who works with children who have special educational needs. She works in collaboration with Class Teachers focussing on individuals and small groups of children in order to help them make progress. She is our link with outside agencies who offer support and advice.

Discipline

At Holy Cross School there is a strong emphasis on self-discipline and respect for all members of the school community. Children learn that school is a place where they live alongside many other people and this means sharing equipment, books and teachers' attention. Children are expected to get on with their work and not waste time or prevent other children from working. Children are expected to listen and not to hurt or abuse other children by word or action.

Expectations of behaviour are high and these are met. Our behaviour management system 'It's Good To Be Green' works across the School and provides clear guidelines for children.

Parents are expected to read and sign the Home School Agreement each year and return it to the School.

Parking

Parents and visitors must not use the School car park during school hours either for parking or turning. The zigzag lines outside the School on Culverly Road and Sanglely Road are mandatory. Parents who park on these lines before and after school are liable to receive a parking ticket from the police. These rules have been made for the safety of your children.

Entrance to the school before 9am and after 3.15pm is through the Junior playground in Culverley Road and via the gate in Sangley Road. Before school begins children wait in the Infant playground where a teacher will be on duty from 8.45am. During school time access is through the entrance in Culverley Road.

Parking around school can be difficult, due to the nearby Controlled Parking Zone and consequent commuter parking on Culverley Road. We would encourage children to walk to school as often as possible or take the bus and walk.

We allow children to cycle to school with their parents' permission and have provided bicycle shelters for this purpose.

Children should not come into school before 8.45am.

