

Our Mission Statement

Holy Family School exists to serve its parish and community by promoting excellence in academic, creative and spiritual learning. Based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church, the school seeks to provide a happy, safe and inspiring environment where children, staff, parents, governors and visitors feel secure, loved and respected. Holy Family Roman Catholic Primary encourages all:

- Through WORK, to develop his or her full potential as part of the community and as a unique person made in the image and likeness of God.
- Through WORSHIP to learn to know and love God and to recognise the person of Christ in others.
- Through WITNESS, to celebrate Gospel messages including justice and peace.

Holy Family RC Primary School



Through Work, Through Worship, Through Witness

Elizabeth Evans, Headteacher says:

A warm welcome to Holy Family Roman Catholic Primary School.

We are a one form entry school in the heart of Kirkholt in Rochdale, serving the Catholic community and those of other faiths and none. We pride ourselves in being a community whose values are taken from the Holy Family's example; that of supporting one another and striving to become the people God intended us to be.

Our mission is to achieve excellence 'through work, through worship and through witness' which we endeavour to do in partnership with parents and carers.

Our core beliefs

As a Catholic school, the teachings of Christ underpin every aspect of school life. As Christ taught us, we are all unique and created in the image and likeness of God; we work hard to ensure every child becomes the person God intended them to be.

Inspiring curriculum

We have designed an inspiring and engaging curriculum, rich in experiences and outdoor learning opportunities.

Pastoral care

Pastoral care is a main priority. We support our children and their families through a comprehensive range of specialist and professional interventions available at school, including a pastoral lead, school based social worker, children's counsellor, Rainbows and speech & language therapy.

Exceptional opportunities

At Holy Family we additionally offer exceptional enrichment experiences, such as breakfast clubs, after school activities, specialist teachers (music, drama, art) and access to a world of learning beyond the school day. We also offer throughout the year, Children's University, Children's Shakespeare Festival, residential visits, and visits to sporting events and music festivals.

Get in touch

If you wish to hear more about what we can offer your child, please get in touch by calling us on 01706 640480 or email on office@holyfamilyrc.rochdale.sch.uk. We would love to show you our wonderful school.



School day: settling in

School times

School begins at 8.50am and ends at 3.30pm. Nursery also begins at 8.50am and ends at 12 noon. Afternoon sessions are available in the Nursery for those who qualify for 30 hours funding or for parents who wish to pay for additional afternoon sessions. These run from 12 noon to 3.30pm.

Uniform

The parents and families of our children work extremely hard to maintain a very high standard of dress and all pupils new to our school are encouraged to wear school uniform. The school has adopted the following uniform:

- Navy blue jumper or cardigan.
- Navy blue slacks or skirt.
- Gold polo shirt.
- Yellow gingham dresses during summer (for girls).
- Black shoes.

School meals

In school we offer healthy meals that are freshly cooked on the premises. Careful attention is paid to the nutritional value of each meal and children are encouraged to eat in a sociable and polite manner. In keeping with our Enhanced Healthy School's status, we try to educate children and families in providing well balanced packed lunches if they choose not to have a school lunch.

We adhere to a 'Meat Free' Friday each week. This is a Catholic tradition which we observe and encourage our families to do likewise.

Free school meals

Children from Reception to Year 2 benefit from universal free school meals. Older children whose families are in receipt of certain benefits may also be entitled to free school meals. Please enquire in confidence at the school office. We encourage all parents who think that they may qualify for free school meals to apply for them, even if your child does not intend to take the meal. Registering your child can make a big difference to the amount of money given to the school to educate your child.



Curriculum and enrichment

Experiential learning

We follow a 'creative curriculum', which combines the subjects of history, geography, art and design technology. These subjects are taught through topics with a heavy emphasis on experiential learning through making, creating, designing and experiencing.

We put a strong emphasis on outdoor learning and making the most of our woodland area to enhance and enrich our curriculum and the children's experience.

Bringing the curriculum to life

Educational trips and specialist visitors are used by school to bring the curriculum to life for the children. In addition to subject coverage, the creative curriculum is used to promote language development through speaking and listening opportunities and writing for different purposes. Computing is used across the curriculum to support design, literacy and research skills. More information about the creative curriculum is available on the school's website and on each year group's page. The curriculum is divided into three stages;

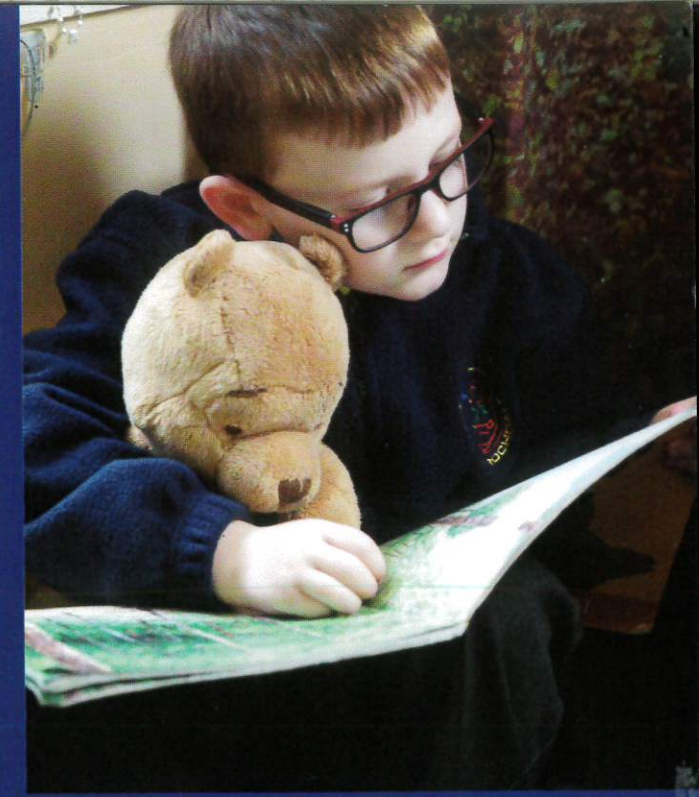
1. Early Years Foundation Stage: from ages 4-5.
2. Key Stage 1: from ages 5-7.
3. Key Stage 2: from ages 7-11.

Religious education

Holy Family is a Roman Catholic School, and the first duty of the Catholic School is to pass on the gift of faith which we received from our parents, teachers and priests. Religious education is provided in accordance with the rites, practices and observance of the Roman Catholic faith. It is expected that children admitted to the school will take an active part in the religious life of the school.

Reconciliation and Holy Communion

The school supports the work of the parish in preparing children for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. Parents wishing to withdraw their child/children from religious instruction and worship, in accordance with the provisions of Section 25 of the Education Act 1944, must make arrangements with the school's Governing Body.



Extra-curricular activities and enrichment

The school provides a wide range of extra-curricular activities. These include:

- Choir.
- Football.
- Dance.
- Drama.
- Rugby.
- Boxing.
- Hockey.
- Gymnastics.
- Golf.
- Basketball.
- Netball.



Activities change during the year and parents will always be informed of changes to times and new activities on offer.

School outings

There are various out of school trips arranged during the school year. Children may go on trips because of the topics they are working on in school or to enrich and deepen their learning experience.



Admissions arrangements

Holy Family is a Roman Catholic Primary School provided by the Diocese of Salford and is maintained by the Rochdale Local Education Authority as a Voluntary Aided School. The school's Governing Board is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. The Governing Board has set its published admissions number at 30.

Admission to the school will be made by the Governing Body through the Local Authority in accordance with the stated parental preferences it receives, subject to the following set of criteria which will be used to form a priority order if there are more applications for admission than the school has places available:

- Baptised Roman Catholic children who are in public care, who will have a sibling* attending the school at the time of admission and are resident in the parish of Holy Family (*sibling, throughout this admission policy, is deemed to apply to those living at the same address and will include: brother or sister, step relatives and children of partners where there is not a legally defined domestic arrangement in place).

Contact details for Rochdale Borough Council:

- 01706 647474 – Monday-Friday 8.30am-5pm
- Email: council@rochdale.gov.uk
- Website: www.rochdale.gov.uk

Getting involved

PFA

The PFA meet regularly in school to discuss plans for social and fund raising events. A calendar of activities will be drawn up for the year. If you would like to assist at any of the events, please come along to the PFA meetings or contact the office and we will pass your details on.

Governors

Our Governing Board is very committed to our school and their concern is the welfare and achievement of our children. They regularly visit school and are also very much involved in the life of the Parish and wider community.

Volunteering

Whenever possible we welcome family members into school to help with hearing the children read. If you are interested in volunteering some of your time, please ask for details at the school office.



Holy Family Roman Catholic School
Great Gates Road, Kirkholt,
Rochdale, OL11 2DN

Telephone: (01706) 640480
Email: office@holyfamilyrc.rochdale.sch.uk
Website: www.holyfamilyrc.rochdale.sch.uk