



SEND Information for Parents

September 2021



Key Staff

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Plymouth Cast's Mission Statement



“Our mission is to be a community of outstanding schools in which our pupils flourish in safe, happy and stimulating environments and leave us with the knowledge and skills, personal qualities and aspirations, to make the world a better place, inspired by the Gospel.”

Our Vision

Firm in our belief that children come first, we will strive to ensure that all pupils at Holy Cross feel happy and safe. With our children being the leaders of the future, we actively promote independence, confidence and teamwork. Together, everyone achieves more.

It is our ambition that Holy Cross Catholic Primary School should become a beacon for other schools within Plymouth CAST and beyond. Pupils will consistently achieve highly so that they are well-prepared for the next stage of their education.

As a result of a broad, customised and ambitious curriculum, which is coherently planned and sequenced, all pupils, particularly our disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND, will be equipped with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.

The environment will be positive, supporting pupils' emotional and mental well-being. Pupils will show a dedication and commitment to learning and be highly motivated. As a result, pupils will develop detailed knowledge and skills enabling them to make rapid progress, attain well and become effective agents of change.



Holy Cross Core Offer for all children



All pupils are taught by their class teacher via excellent targeted classroom teaching also known as Quality First Teaching

For your child this would mean:

- That the teacher has the highest possible expectations for your child and all pupils in their class.
- That all teaching is based upon building upon what your child already knows, can do and can understand.
- At times the teacher may direct a class based teaching assistant, to work with your child as part of normal working practice.
- Differentiated or scaffolded activities and different ways of presenting information are in place so that your child is fully involved in learning in class.
- Specific strategies (which may be suggested by the SENCO or outside agencies) are in place to support children.
- Your child's teacher will have carefully checked on your child's progress and may decide that gaps in their understanding/learning requires some extra support to help them make the best possible progress. All children in school may access this as part of excellent classroom practice.
- Precision teaching for a smaller group of children may be used. This group, often called intervention groups by schools, may be: run in the classroom or outside in a work area, run by a teacher or a teaching assistant who has had training to run these groups.
- If needed, pupils have access to the support available from outside agencies

How will the school know that my child has Special Educational Needs or a Disability? How will I know if my child is receiving support?

- Fortnightly meetings to review the needs of children across the school
- Pupil Progress Meetings
- You can inform the school if you think your child has a special need or a disability.
- Your child's class teacher will be happy to discuss the support and provision that is in place for your child
- Regular discussions are in place between SENCO and Class teachers about how we can support each child

How will the school know that my child has Special Educational Needs or a Disability? How will I know if my child is receiving support?

Monitoring

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SEND Support

EHCP

SEND Support Plans

- Start with the child and their views- their likes/dislikes, aspirations and how they want to be supported
- Outline their needs and the input of any external professionals working with the child and family
- Small steps and targets for the child to achieve, how this will be done in school and how you can support at home, along with a date for review
- Record of conversations with parents and the actions agreed
- Meetings with parents at least 3 times a year, in addition to parents evenings

How will the teachers help my child to learn?

- Teachers have high expectations for all children.
- Learning is tailored to your child's needs.
- Practical learning is a part of every day teaching.
- Resources are adapted for your child.
- Progress will be checked regularly during the year.
- Your child may have specific, targeted interventions
- Visual timetables are displayed in all classrooms to help your child see what their learning for the day will be.

How does the school support my child's emotional and social development?

- All staff will support your child with their social and emotional needs.
- Designated Mental Health lead and a team of ELSA trained teaching assistants to support your child
- Nurture provision available to all children
- The school works closely with many services including Child and Adolescent Mental Health, Educational Psychology and MAST to support the needs of every child

Which adults can help my child in school and do they have specialist training?

- All teachers are experienced teaching children with special educational needs.
- Teaching Assistants provide additional support in the classroom.
- Meal-time assistants support children throughout the lunch time period.
- Staff share knowledge, strategies and experience to ensure consistency of approach across the school.
- Training is part of the on-going development for all staff.
- Expertise is given to staff by other professionals.

What happens if my child needs specialist equipment or other facilities?

- We will endeavour to buy specialist equipment to support your child in their learning. e.g. pencil grips, angle boards for writing, overlays
- Designated quiet areas can be made available when required.
- Specialist equipment can be requested from other professionals e.g occupational therapy service, speech and language service, sensory support service.

How will I be involved in supporting my child's learning?

- You will be fully involved in all aspects of your child's education. Your views and aspirations will be highly valued as we work in partnership to achieve the best outcomes for your child.
- Decisions will **always** be made with your consent.
- We actively encourage parents and school staff to work closely in helping your child.

Who should I contact if I need more information about my child's learning or progress?

- The first step is to contact the class teacher and arrange an appointment.
- If you have additional concerns or questions please contact me via dojo, email or coming into the office to make an appointment

Who else provides services for children with Special Needs or disabilities?

How can I get support from these services?

- MAST (Multi-Agency Support Team)
 - Educational Psychology Service
 - Child Development Centre
 - Occupational Health
 - School Nursing Service
 - Speech and Language Support
 - Communication and Interaction Team
 - CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service)
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- **Referrals are made in partnership with parents, school staff, school nurse, GP and other professionals.**
 - **Advice and strategies are given to support you and your child.**

ANY
Questions?