

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Single Stand-Alone Academy

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School converted to Single Academy status in 2011 (as Holy Rood Catholic Junior School). This means that it is a single stand-alone academy trust and a registered company, limited by guarantee.

Registered Number: 07696905

Registered Office: Holy Cross Catholic Primary School, Queens Drive, Swindon SN3 1AR

Academy schools are state-funded schools in England which are directly funded by central government (specifically the Department for Education) and are independent of the local authority. The Governing Body (Trustees) is accountable to the Secretary of State for Education through the requirements of the Funding Agreement.

The Academy has two layers of governance:

The Members, who operate at a strategic level with ultimate control of the direction of the Academy trust. Holy Cross Catholic Primary School has three members:

- Bishop John Bosco MacDonald
- Clifton Catholic Diocesan Education Foundation (CCDEF)
- Chair of the Board of Trustees at Holy Cross School

The Members meet once a year for an Annual General Meeting. The remit of the Members is to ensure the Academy Trust achieves its charitable objectives, appoint an auditor, receive the annual accounts, amend the articles of association, and appoint the 'appointed' governors.

The Trustees, who are often referred to as governors, have responsibility for the day-to-day management and operation of the Academy trust.

The Articles of Association for Holy Cross Catholic Primary School determine that the Board is made up of the following categories of governors:

- 8 Foundation governors
- 2 Parent governors
- 2 Staff governors
- 1 Head Teacher (ex officio)
- 3 Co-opted governors *
- 1 Board appointed governor *

* as long as the number of Foundation Governors exceeds all other categories of governor by a margin of 2.

The Board of Governors has the following core functions:

- Clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- To hold the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- To ensure financial probity and oversee the financial performance of the school, making sure that money is well spent.
- To build positive, professional relationships with the school community and wider stakeholders.

So, the current Trustees meet monthly to monitor, evaluate and review Academy policy, practice and performance in relation to curriculum planning, target setting, assessments (Key Stage SATS and Teacher Assessments) and all pastoral issues; review the effectiveness of the Governing Body; review the School Development Plan; ensure policies and procedures are in place for effective personnel management, and manage relationships with the school's stakeholders. As a Catholic School within the Clifton Diocese, they also ensure that Catholic values underpin all aspects of school life and advise on any matters relating to the ethos and spiritual life of the school.

For the school year 2025/26:

- Chair of the Board Carolina Cabrera
- Vice Chair of the Board Margaret Robinson
- Committees established: Risk & Audit Committee (Chair – Vanessa Fernandes)
Admissions Committee

All other regular business is covered at Board meetings.

If you would like to talk to any of our governors then please contact the Clerk to the Board in the first instance: apenfold@holycross.swindon.sch.uk