

# Welcome

## Holy Family Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre

### Our Mission Statement

Inspired by the spirit of God:

- Holy Family aspires to be a caring Catholic community,
- Following the example of Jesus,
- Celebrating our talents and achievements,
- Having the ambition to be the best we can be,
- Supporting each other in a secure and safe environment.

Welcome to Holy Family Catholic High School. We are a high achieving, 11-18 school, where children feel safe and happy.

We aim to create a very supportive and caring environment where each pupil has the self-confidence and belief to realise their ambitions. We are aspirational for all of our young people and strive to meet the needs of every child, irrespective of ability, to ensure they maximise their potential both in and out of the classroom.

The school is well known for its very high academic standards and the warmth of its working relationships. We are committed to providing the best possible education for all our pupils. We are proud of their many achievements and believe that this is based on a strong partnership between school, home, church and the local community.

One of our strengths is our size. We are large enough to provide an extensive range of learning opportunities but small enough to get to know our young people and respond to each and every one as an individual. As a consequence our pupils are able to enjoy their learning, develop as caring, well-rounded individuals and equip themselves with the skills and knowledge necessary for them to enjoy fulfilled and happy lives.

We hope that our prospectus and website will provide you with a useful insight into our school.

We look forward to meeting and working with you.

Mr M Symes  
Headteacher

*The school is a supportive and caring community that celebrates pupils' talents. Pupils and students are happy and feel safe here. They respect differences between people. The school has high expectations of pupils' achievement. Typically, pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) achieve well. They are well prepared for the next stage in their education.*

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*Students' behaviour is exemplary, both in lessons and throughout the school. They conduct themselves with maturity, showing respect for staff, peers, and the learning environment. This clearly reflects the school's Catholic values and a commitment to following in the footsteps of Jesus through their actions and attitudes.*

**Catholic Schools Inspectorate Report – May 2025**



# Admissions

Holy Family welcomes enquiries from parents. It may be possible to arrange a tour during the normal school day if requested. Holy Family endeavours to work closely with primary feeder schools and to organise visits and activities designed to make the transition to secondary school as smooth as possible for the children.

During the summer term, Year 6 pupils who have been offered a place will have the opportunity to spend a day experiencing Holy Family. In July, parents and pupils are invited into school on our Welcome Evening to receive information about the transition into their new school.

The co-ordination of admissions arrangements is undertaken by the Local Authority. Parents must complete a Local Authority Preference Form or apply online via the website [www.sefton.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.sefton.gov.uk/admissions). If you wish your application to be considered against the school's faith criteria then you must ALSO complete the Supplementary Form which is available on the school website.

If it is not possible to offer places for all applications within any criteria then priority will be given to those living closest to the school measured by the shortest, safest walking distance from the child's home. We will measure from the property's address point, to the nearest school gate (using recognised routes known to the Authority at the time of measurement).

## How to apply: **Years 7-11**

**Contact:** Sefton Admission Team

**Tel:** 0845 140 0845

**Email:** [admissions@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@sefton.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.sefton.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.sefton.gov.uk/admissions)  
or visit the school website [www.holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk](http://www.holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk)

## **Sixth Form Years 12-13**

**Contacts:** Mrs Beddow

**Tel:** 0151 924 6451

**Email:** [6thform@holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk](mailto:6thform@holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk)

# Holy Family Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre

1. Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children. This includes children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
3. Baptised Catholic children resident in the parishes of English Martyrs' (Litherland); Holy Family (Ince Blundell); Our Lady of Compassion (Formby); Our Lady of Victories (Hightown); Our Lady Queen of Peace (Litherland); St Benet's (Netherton); St Jerome's (Formby); St Mary's (Little Crosby) and St William of York (Thornton).
4. Baptised Catholic children attending a linked parish primary school. English Martyrs, St Jerome's, Our Lady of Compassion, St Mary's, Little Crosby, Our Lady Queen of Peace, St William of York and St Benedict's.
5. Baptised Catholic children of current staff.
  - where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
  - the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
6. Other baptised Catholic children.
7. Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
8. Children attending one of the following Catholic Feeder Primary Schools in the parishes named in criterion 3 above: English Martyrs, St Jerome's, Our Lady of Compassion, St Mary's Little Crosby, Our Lady Queen of Peace, St William of York, St Benedict's
9. Children from other Christian denominations. Proof of Baptism in the form of a Baptismal Certificate or confirmation in writing that the applicant is a member of their Faith community from an appropriate Minister of Religion is required.
10. Children of other faiths. An appropriate Faith Leader would need to confirm in writing that the applicant is a member of their faith group.
11. Other children.





The school is a calm and positive learning environment. Pupils and students are courteous and respectful. Staff foster strong relationships with pupils, including those in the specially resourced provision for pupils with SEND.

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# Enrichment and Personal Development

## Holy Family Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre

An extensive extra-curricular programme, numerous charity fundraising events and a vast array of local, national and international trips all contribute to the Personal Development Programme at Holy Family. It is our ultimate aim to ensure that every pupil in our school takes advantage of these opportunities in a bid to broaden their experiences and develop their character.

The Personal Development Programme encompasses numerous aspects of school life, contributing to our learners' broader developments and ensuring that our young people are equipped with the knowledge, understanding and practical skills to live safe, healthy and productive lives.

Further aspects of the programme are delivered in assemblies, Form time and enrichment days and designated PSHE lessons. The PSHE programme covers three main areas – Relationships and Sex Education, Health and Well-being and Careers, preparing our young people for success in modern Britain and the wider world. All teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values.

## Sport

Sporting activities include football, netball, basketball, swimming, rounders, cricket, dance, hockey, rugby, badminton, cross country running, athletics and volleyball. School teams take part in District, County and National competitions and experience considerable success.

## Study Club

This is open to all pupils to come and do their homework, do research for their coursework, or just have some quiet time to read and revise. The club is supervised by a member of staff who is on hand to ensure an atmosphere that is conducive to study and to offer assistance when required.

## Drama

Pupils are encouraged to take part in a variety of productions from the annual musical to small scale drama group productions in the Drama Hall.

## School Trips

Pupils at Holy Family have the opportunity to experience a wide range of school trips including;  
Skiing (Europe/America)  
Football trips (Spain/Scotland)  
Drama (London)  
Music (Manchester)  
Science (Budapest/Geneva)  
6th Form (New York/Berlin/Krakow/Switzerland)  
Year 7 (CHET/PGL Shropshire)

## Student Leadership

Pupils in all years at Holy Family are eager to play a part in the Student Leadership Programme. We believe that offering pupils the opportunity to experience one of a vast number of leadership roles will empower our young adults – be it as whole school ambassadors, Form Captains or subject specific leaders.

## Instrumental Tuition

Arrangements can be made for pupils to have instrumental tuition during school time. Parents are advised to contact Mrs Pellow (Head of Music) for further information.

## The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

The Duke of Edinburgh Award programme is very well supported by pupils and staff at Holy Family and year on year is a huge success. There are 3 levels of award – Bronze (Year 10), Silver (Year 11) and Gold (Years 12 and 13).

In order to gain the award participants must successfully complete 4 sections:

Skill | Service | Physical Recreation | Expedition

*Pupils and students benefit from a vast array of activities, such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, sports, visits to museums and theatres and overseas trips. Pupils with SEND, including those in the specially resourced provision, are involved in all school activities.*

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[www.holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk](http://www.holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk)





*The school, together with governors, have high aspirations for all pupils. Pupils are encouraged to be the best that they can be.*

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# Growing in the Faith

We want all of our pupils to have every opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of their Catholic Faith and to be part of a community that reflects, prays and celebrates together. We also recognise that for many of our young people, school is effectively their parish.

The Religious Education curriculum is designed to enable all of our young people to understand their Catholic Faith and to have the opportunity to explore, question and challenge the Church's teaching in a supportive environment.

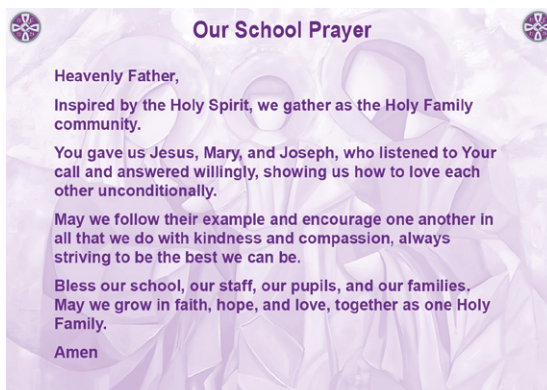
Every day begins with an act of Worship in Form time led by the pupils themselves or by their Form Tutor. Once a week, each year group has a formal assembly providing a further opportunity for pupils and staff to celebrate important events in the Church's year and reflect on the school's mission.

At the end of each term, the whole school community comes together to worship and celebrate achievement.

## Holy Family Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre

### Charity Work

A huge amount of fundraising for charity goes on in school every year. Pupils are unfailingly generous in wanting to lead activities and support others. Holy Family looks for every opportunity to live out its Mission Statement as a Catholic school.



#### Our School Prayer

Heavenly Father,  
Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we gather as the Holy Family community.

You gave us Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, who listened to Your call and answered willingly, showing us how to love each other unconditionally.

May we follow their example and encourage one another in all that we do with kindness and compassion, always striving to be the best we can be.

Bless our school, our staff, our pupils, and our families.  
May we grow in faith, hope, and love, together as one Holy Family.

Amen





# School Information

## Governing Body and School Information

The school has a very supportive Governing Body with 12 members. The Chair of the Governing Body is currently Mrs Margaret Evans, she can be contacted via Sara Bailey, clerk to Governors, at the school.

The Governors and staff work hard to produce appropriate policies and ensure the smooth running of the school. They are ambitious for the school and work tirelessly to ensure that the school continues to develop.

Policies are available on the school website: [www.holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk](http://www.holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk)

## Public Examinations

At the end of year 11, pupils are entered for public examinations as are pupils in Sixth Form. The number and level of examinations for which they are entered are dependent upon their ability and application. The main examination for which pupils are entered is the GCSE. We offer a wide variety of suitable qualifications for our pupils.

## Valuables and Insurance

Neither the school nor the Local Authority has an insurance policy which will cover the loss of a child's personal property in the event of it being lost or stolen. Parents should check their household insurance policy to see if it covers items of personal use outside the home.

## Financial Help and Support

Pupils in receipt of free school meals will be entitled to:

- Tie and badge (Free)
- Holy Family School Bus (subsidy)
- PE Kit (50% subsidy)
- Music Tuition (50% subsidy)
- Food/ Textile/ Design Technology (Free resources)
- Revision Guides (50% subsidy)





# The School Curriculum

## Holy Family Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre

### Principles

- All pupils have an entitlement to the whole curriculum provision;
- The curriculum is broad and balanced to contribute to the education of the 'whole' child;
- The curriculum also makes allowances and adapts accordingly to individual needs;
- The curriculum offers a variety of learning experiences and encourages pupils to take responsibility for their own learning.



### Guidelines

- The curriculum in years 7 – 11 includes all core and foundation subjects as well as RE and Personal Development;
- Pupils requiring learning support receive extra provision in terms of staff and resources;
- The PSHE programme provides pupils with opportunities to acquire knowledge, skills and understanding of areas not covered in the core subjects.



### Curriculum Organisation

The curriculum described overleaf is the one followed by the majority of pupils. There are variations to this basic outline when this is thought to be in the best interests of individual pupils. We run a 2-week timetable, with 50 x 60-minute lessons, over 10 days.

Our aim is to provide a broad, balanced curriculum which promotes the development of all pupils as rounded individuals and which prepares them for the responsibilities of adult life. The curriculum extends beyond the formal provision of lessons in the school and aims to encompass the relationships, values and attitudes of the school as a wider community.

We aim to:

- help pupils acquire knowledge and skills relevant to themselves and the world in which they live
- help pupils develop both intellectually and emotionally
- help pupils acquire a set of values and beliefs in keeping with the school's Mission Statement
- help pupils to develop respect for others and for themselves





# The School Curriculum

## Key Stage 3

The curriculum at Key Stage 3 aims to meet the needs of all pupils. We liaise closely with the primary schools and use external data from KS2 SATs and CATs. All pupils follow the national curriculum subjects throughout the three years of Key Stage 3. There are also opportunities to provide extra literacy and numeracy support for those who need it in order to further improve these vital skills. Pupil progress is monitored carefully and reported termly.

The following subjects are followed at Key Stage 3:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Computing
- History
- R.E.
- Geography
- Art
- Spanish
- Music
- P.E.
- Design Technology
- Food Technology
- Drama
- Personal Development

## Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 we have an open equitable options process. All pupils are taught Maths, English, Combined or Triple Science and RE. All pupils take part in Personal Development (PSHE) lessons and physical education. All pupils select three optional subjects which ensures a balanced curriculum.

The following subjects are currently available:

### Core

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- Combined Science
- Religious Education
- PE
- Personal Development

### Optional

- Art
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Dance
- Drama
- Engineering
- Enterprise
- Food & Nutrition
- French
- Geography
- Health and Social Care
- History
- ICT
- Music
- PE/Sports Studies
- Physics
- Spanish



*Pupils follow an ambitious curriculum. The school has carefully identified the important subject knowledge that it wants pupils to learn from Year 7 to Year 13. The school has designed subject curriculums so that pupils can build their knowledge in a logical order. Pupils, including those with SEND, achieve well across a range of subjects.*



# School Uniform / Equipment

## Holy Family Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre

### School uniform is compulsory for all pupils in years 7 to 11

BLAZER	Black blazer with Holy Family Catholic High School badge
TIE	Holy Family Catholic High School tie (Purple - Y7, Y8 and Y9, Black - Y10 and Y11)
SHIRT	White shirt
SKIRT/PINAFORE	Knee length pleated grey skirt or a pinafore
TROUSERS	Boys - black or grey trousers Girls - black or grey tailored trousers
JUMPER/CARDIGAN (optional)	Grey V necked
SHOES	Plain black and polishable (no fabric) low heeled full shoes appropriate for school (not trainers, sport brands, ankle boots or leisure shoes)
SOCKS	Boys - plain dark socks Girls - plain grey (below knee or ankle socks - not leggings)
TIGHTS	Girls - thick grey or black tights
OUTDOOR WEAR	Smart, plain outdoor coats may be worn. Note that tracksuit tops, hooded sweatshirts or denim jackets are not acceptable for school. All coats must be plain
HAIR	Long hair must be tied back for all pupils for certain activities. There must be no elaborate hair decoration - hair bands must be plain and either black or purple in colour. No extreme hairstyles (no stepped or sudden changes in length sides and back, no bullet creases or patterns shaved in). Natural hair colours.
MAKE- UP	We are aware that, as pupils reach adolescence, it is not uncommon for them to feel self-conscious about their appearance. Therefore, in years 9 – 11 only, pupils may wear subtle, light touch make-up only, that would not be noticeable to the observer. The following are not permitted: fake tan; highlighter and bronzer; nail varnish and Shellac/ acrylic nails; HD brows; false lashes. The judgement as to whether the make-up is considered 'subtle' will be made by staff. Any pupil who is judged to be wearing inappropriate make-up will be asked to remove it.
JEWELLERY	The only jewellery permitted is a single plain gold or silver stud earring in the ear (only one earring per ear). No other visible piercings are permitted.

It is expected that all items of uniform will be clearly marked with the pupils name.

## SIXTH FORM DRESS CODE

In the 6th Form we try to treat our pupils more as adults and do not insist on the same uniform as the lower years. However, pupils are expected to wear smart business dress in the form of plain, tailored black trousers or a plain skirt and a plain top.

## EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

### SCHOOL BAG

- Plain dark school bag, big enough to carry all equipment needed for a normal school day

### STATIONERY AND OTHER ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- The following equipment is a minimum requirement that pupils should have with them every day:
  - 2 pens (black)
  - 2 pencils
  - Ruler
  - Eraser
  - Sharpener
  - Purple pen
  - Highlighter
  - Pencil case
  - Reading book
  - Calculator (school preferred calculator is a Casio fx83 or fx85)
  - Small English dictionary
  - A protractor (for mathematics lessons)
  - A pair of compasses (for mathematics lessons)
  - A suitable school bag
  - A pack of coloured pencils
  - Head/ear phones for computer use
  - Glue stick





Pupils and students spoke highly of the careers guidance that they receive, including learning about apprenticeships and employer visits. Year 11 pupils and sixth-form students appreciate the work experience opportunities that they take part in. This allows them to prepare for the next stages of their lives.

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# The Sixth Form

## Holy Family Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre

### Why choose Holy Family Sixth Form?

- Excellent results
- Supportive and caring environment
- Strong links with universities and employers
- Excellent careers advice
- Dedicated Sixth Form areas
- Personalised learning programmes

*The school has clearly laid-out processes to provide support for pupils with SEND. The school identifies the needs of pupils with SEND swiftly. It makes sure that pupils in the specially resourced provision receive the specialist support that they need. Staff use appropriate strategies to enable these pupils to access the same learning as their peers. This helps pupils with SEND to remember key learning across a range of subjects.*







The school places a strong focus on supporting pupils' emotional health and well-being. Pupils have many opportunities to develop their independence and resilience. They find out about different faiths and beliefs. Pupils develop a strong understanding of age-appropriate relationships. They learn about democracy and what is right and wrong. They enjoy contributing to the wider community, including by raising money for charities.

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At the heart of the school is a strong sense of community, with staff, students, and parents describing it as "a family" and "a home." This sense of belonging is evident in the inclusive, supportive, and nurturing culture that permeates the school.

**Catholic Schools Inspectorate  
Report – May 2025**



### Student Services Team

The Inclusion Centre is Holy Family's nurture base, supporting young people from Year 6 (transition) through to Year 13 (Sixth Form). Professionals from a very wide range of external agencies, together with school based multi-skilled practitioners provide very effective and personalised support for pupils. Staff, based in the Inclusion Centre, design and implement bespoke educational programmes based on the needs of identified pupils to encourage full and enjoyable participation in their school learning environment.

The Inclusion Centre team link with a range of work based learning providers, community groups and local businesses to remove barriers to learning, enriching educational aspirations for all the pupils who actively engage with these projects.

The Inclusion Centre is recognised in Sefton and the wider educational community as a centre of excellence and works effectively by sharing good practice with other agencies.

The School's Student Services supports pupils who have:

- poor organisational skills;
- poor self esteem;
- friendship issues / emotional problems;
- responsibilities as young carers / concerns because; they are 'looked after' / child protection issues;
- behaviour problems / unresolved anger;
- attendance problems.

### Transport

The Governors of Holy Family Catholic High School introduced a bus service in September 2011. This service is currently subsidised, to support pupils with safer and easier transport to and from school.







Students at Holy Family Catholic High School engage extremely well in lessons, demonstrating respect, concentration, and focus, which enables positive progress.

Catholic Schools Inspectorate Report – May 2025

