



Learning together in faith

Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company

**Parent, Carer and Visitor
Code of Conduct**

Responsible for policy	Marina Kelly
Date of policy	July 2021
Date approved by HCC MAC Board	1 September 2021
Date of policy review	September 2024

Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. Holy Cross Catholic MAC Mission and Aims	2
3. Purpose and Scope of this Policy	3
4. Our expectations of Parents, Carers and Visitors	3
5. Behaviour that will not be tolerated	3
6. Breaching the Code of Conduct	4

1. Introduction

At Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company (MAC) we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parents and carers. Our parents and carers recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents and carers, governors, class teachers and the school and parish community. As a partnership, our parents and carers will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip pupils with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this document is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the expected conduct. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

2. Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company (MAC) Mission and Aims

Holy Cross Catholic MAC Schools share a common Mission whereby:

Our school communities are united as the family of God to provide an outstanding Catholic education for all our pupils. With Christ at the centre of all we do, we will inspire every child to be the best person they can be by developing their God given gifts and talents.

Our Mission is supported by the following aims:

High aspirations for all

Outstanding education - creating an ethos of collective responsibility, through which the MAC will promote achievement and improve pupil performance

Living out Gospel values instilling a *Catholic ethos* in all our schools, with reconciliation and peace at the heart of all we do

Young people – developing our young people to be resilient and to make positive contributions to their parishes and our diverse and ever-changing communities

Community - strengthening and nurturing the Catholic life of our schools

Realising talent - developing pupils, staff and all other members of our academy for the benefit of the *Holy Cross* community and society generally

Optimising resources - realising best value by sharing assets, gaining economies of scale and making the most of what we have

Standards - maintaining the highest quality of Catholic education by ensuring accountability at all levels

Service to God - serving others in our school and local communities and in national and international communities in need.

Our schools are also bound together by our motto: *Achieving together in faith*

3. Purpose and scope

At Holy Cross Catholic MAC, we believe it's important for all of our schools to:

- Work in partnership with parents and carers to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff, parents and carers
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times

To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes Directors and Governors (through their respective Catholic Education Service Codes of Conduct, staff (through the staff Code of Conduct) and pupils (through school Behaviour policies).

This Code of Conduct aims to help the school work together with parents, carers and visitors by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

We use the term 'parents and carers' to refer to:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil
- Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)

4. Our expectations of parents, carers and visitors

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the Catholic ethos, vision and values of our schools
- Upholding the principles of equal opportunities
- Work together with school staff in the best interests of our pupils
- Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful solution to all issues
- Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

5. Behaviour that will not be tolerated (any type of communication – face to face, written or telephone communication including email and social media)

- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- Swearing, or using offensive or discriminatory language
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents

- Threatening another member of the school community
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult
- Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- Smoking or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than assistance dogs)

6. Breaching the code of conduct

If a MAC school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent about the incident.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent in to school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the local authority's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Limit the methods or routes by which the school/parent carer communicate
- Ban the parent from the school site
- Any ban will be reviewed on a regular basis

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the code of conduct rests with the headteacher in consultation with the MAC's Senior Executive Leader (CSEL).

The headteacher will also consult the chair of governors before banning a parent from the school site.