

27th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As explained to parents in previous communication, Holy Rosary has been part of a consultation being carried out at a number of schools in the St Ralph Sherwin Trust, where restructures are proposed. The proposals for each school have been shaped by their individual staffing structures, long-term financial sustainability and the level of pupils' needs.

At Holy Rosary, a number of classes are currently below their pupil admission number (PAN) of 30:

- Year Two - 20
- Year Three - 24
- Year Four – 18

It is not financially sustainable to continue operating a model in which a full-time teacher is allocated to each class. This challenge is common in schools across the country. As a result of these low pupil numbers, the loss of one full-time teaching post is proposed. No further staffing reductions are proposed.

Consequently, from September 2026 we will be combining classes to create two mixed-age classes within Key Stage 2, where pupil numbers are lowest. This would still support class sizes of up to 30. This model forms part of the proposed structure for September 2026, and all classes will remain within statutory class size limits.

Several teachers already have experience of teaching mixed-age classes. This is common practice across the Trust due to varied planned admission numbers, and staff have the strategies in place to ensure all pupils continue to receive high-quality teaching that meets their individual needs.

I want to reassure parents that any changes to class groupings will be approached with great care. Decisions will always be made with the children at the centre. Should your child be part of a class that is proposed to become a mixed-year group, information sharing with families will be prioritised alongside our usual transition updates.

Further information about any proposed changes will be shared before half term. Shortly after half term, more specific transition details—such as class teams and classroom arrangements—will be communicated with all families.

We are working hard to increase pupil numbers across the school. Growing our roll remains a key priority, and we continue to promote Holy Rosary as a nurturing, high-quality learning environment for all children.

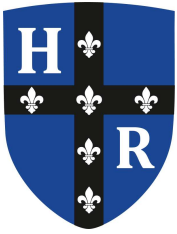


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**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



As ever, I remain especially mindful of ensuring that our children and families continue to feel supported, cared for and heard. Please contact me if you have any questions about the above so that you can be reassured and confident in the accuracy of information you are receiving specific to our school moving forward.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Dyche
Headteacher