



**Little
Sparks**

HOLY CROSS PRE-SCHOOL
KINGSTON

The spark
of excitement...

Holy Cross Preparatory School for girls in Kingston has now launched its pre-school for girls. It is called 'Little Sparks' and is off to a start that suits its name! Let us tell you about what makes it special.



Mrs S Hair,
Headteacher.



Be imaginative





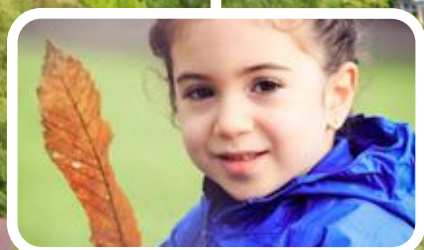
be curious



At Holy Cross we see our life's mission as igniting the spark that will change for the better the lives of all our girls – the spark that will become a flame that will define the arc of their lives.

We say that a good beginning to the journey of life starts young. Now it can start even younger - at 3-4 years old. We are delighted to be doing this because so many of our parents have said they wished we would!





**to communicate
and solve problems**



The pre-school will benefit directly from our unrivalled grounds in the heart of Kingston, from our wonderful facilities, and from our permanent specialist teachers.

The pre-school is situated in The Lodge – a pretty building next to the main school which has been purpose-renovated.

So, why might you consider us for your young daughter's first steps in education?

Firstly, having early years experts and specialist teachers, qualified to nurture children within a 'growth mindset' environment, is key. Your daughter will not be parked in a playroom but will always be on the go and full of beans in a rich and energetic learning setting. Curiosity, creativity, communication and confidence are the four cornerstones of early education. Everything happens on a child by child basis, with cognitive development derived from every activity.

So, give your daughter the best possible start.



to discover.





Secondly, your daughter will, in her own time, start to spread her wings. Unrushed, and yet presented daily with stimulating activities, she will start to grow roots in the Holy Cross family that will make her wonderfully prepared for senior school (yes, that is unimaginably far away and yet happens in a flash).

Thirdly, Holy Cross is based on a robust Christian value system. Our girls leave us believing in themselves and with a responsibility to others. They leave believing that there is an exciting future in the wide world for them – and, with that belief, we know that there will be!

Come and stand quietly in our glorious grounds and just listen. Listen to the girls' laughter, their joy in their young lives. Listen to their happiness. You will then begin to understand that here we ignite a spark; the spark that will shape the life.

Our Curriculum

In their first year at Holy Cross, our 'Little Sparks' make giant leaps in their personal, social and physical development. Our pre-school captures the imagination of our endlessly inquisitive learners, helping them to take the first small steps towards independence.

Little Sparks gives a learning experience tailored to each girl's interests and pastoral needs, as well as to her budding academic path. Our highly-experienced teaching team and energy-filled environment provides the right combination of nurture and challenge. Our pre-school pupils will gain confidence, perseverance and resilience, as well as a variety of valuable learning skills in a fun environment.

The Little Sparks curriculum encompasses The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and more; it provides exciting early exposure to some specialist subjects including art, drama, music, sport, French and Forest School. This broad and dynamic programme is the best possible way of easing your daughter's transition into the main school, where she will complete the final part of the early years journey. With these robust foundations in place, our Little Sparks will be reception ready and they will fly!

The EYFS has seven interconnected areas of learning and development.

The three prime areas of learning are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development - self-regulation, managing self, building relationships
- Physical Development - gross motor skills (climbing, risk-taking, balance and coordination) and fine motor skills (holding scissors and pencils correctly)
- Communication and Language - listening, attention, understanding and speaking

The four specific areas of learning are:

- Literacy - reading comprehension (story books), phonics (knowing initial sounds, s a t p i n) and writing (early mark making, letter formation and name writing)
- Mathematics - number (1 to 10) and numerical patterns
- Understanding the World - past and present, people and communities, the natural world (using technology and computing)
- Expressive Arts and Design - creating with materials, being imaginative and expressive





Our Curriculum

Our 'Little Sparks' is based in our newly renovated Victorian Lodge, with their own outdoor classroom and play area. But that is just the beginning. The girls have all the excitement of our eight acres of grounds (uniquely large for this part of Kingston) - our adventure playground, woodland, pond, play village and sports pitches.

Then there are our unparalleled facilities for a pre-prep, including a modern performing arts theatre, the pavilion and sports hall, as well as our much-loved oak-panelled library. From getting messy in the mud kitchens to spotting the minibeasts who have checked into our bug hotels, our Little Sparks will be curiosity personified.

This is how a Holy Cross education begins.



Admissions Information

Little Sparks at Holy Cross opened its doors on 7th September 2021. Your daughter may start the term following her third birthday. Girls that attend Little Sparks will be given priority admission into the reception class at Holy Cross Prep School.

Choosing a school for your daughter is one of the most important decisions you can make, and we understand just how important it is to find the one that best suits your daughter and your family. We very much look forward to supporting you in making this decision. We welcome all faiths and cultures, although priority is given to Catholic families and siblings of current pupils.

Admission to Little Sparks begins with the process of the early completion of a registration form and paying the non-refundable registration fee. Once registered, all children are placed on a waiting list. Following the registration there is no formal assessment, your daughter will be invited to visit with a parent present to meet the Headteacher and EFYS staff.

The pre-school is the start of a dedicated two-year programme, completed in our reception class, which follows the early years curriculum. We have been granted exemption from the early years curriculum to develop our own outstanding learning.

We look for children who are eager, ready to learn and have concentration and language skills appropriate to their age. As well as personal and social skills, we also look for imagination and individuality.

If you have any questions please contact our Registrar; Mrs Wilman:

✉ admissions@holycrossprep.com

Admission Fees:

- **Registration Fee** – at the registration stage, we require a non-refundable deposit of £95 (on return of a completed registration form).
- **Acceptance Deposit** – at the acceptance stage, we require a deposit of £1,000 (following the offer of a place and on return of a completed acceptance form) and the first term's fees in advance.



Fees

School fees are charged termly and cover all the pre-school extra-curricular activities and the entire EYFS curriculum. The payment also includes the Pupil Personal Accident Insurance Scheme premium, details of which are available separately. Fees are invoiced in advance and payable by the first day of each term. The current fee structure is available on our website.

There is a minimum of 5 morning sessions for all pupils. In the year before starting reception there are a minimum of 1 afternoon session in the autumn term, 2-3 afternoon sessions in the spring term and 4-5 afternoon sessions in the summer term.

Sessions

Breakfast Club	8.00am – 8.30am
Mornings	8.30am – 12.00pm
Afternoon (including lunch)	12.00pm – 3.00pm
Wraparound care	
1st session	3.00pm – 4.30pm
2nd session (including tea)	4.30pm – 6.00pm



Fees Continued

Childcare Vouchers and Tax Free Childcare

Holy Cross is registered to receive payments from parents who use Tax Free Childcare and Childcare Vouchers from all companies. Vouchers can be used against tuition fees for pre-school children only. For children in reception to year 6, vouchers are accepted but can only be used to pay for out of school hours childcare e.g. after-school care, breakfast club, teacher-led clubs.

Review and Notice of Increase

Notifications of any increases are given to parents one full term in advance.

Payment Due Date and Method

Payment of fees is due on, or before, the first day of term by Direct Debit. If there is a problem that might prevent this, we do ask, as a matter of courtesy, that you contact our Finance Officer, Miss Sheila Wilkinson, to advise her of the situation:



sheila.wilkinson@holycrossprep.com

Administration charge for late payment - £50

Payment by Instalment

The school operates a scheme through a third party, 'School Fee Plan', which offers the facility for payment of fees in monthly instalments by Direct Debit. Parents wishing to take advantage of the scheme are requested to visit



www.sfpschoolfees.co.uk for further information.

Withdrawal Notice Period

To withdraw a child from school (other than at the normal leaving date), parents must give a term's notice or pay a term's fees in lieu of notice, at such rate as would have been charged for the final term of provision if a term's notice had been given. For example, if you wish to withdraw your child with effect from the start of the autumn term (i.e. at the start of an academic year), you would need to tell us in writing that you wish to withdraw your child before the first day of the preceding summer term.

If you have any questions, please contact our Finance Officer, Miss Sheila Wilkinson:



sheila.wilkinson@holycrossprep.com

Please note that the pre-school is registered in the name of Holy Cross Preparatory School

Toileting

We know that all children have toileting accidents from time to time and staff are happy to change children when this occurs. Children accepting a place at our pre-school will need to be out of nappies and able to use the toilet independently when needed, unless they have a specific identified special need or disability which would prevent this.



For more information
please visit, call or email:

holycrossprepschool.co.uk

020 8942 0729

admissions@holycrossprep.com



Little Sparks

HOLY CROSS PRE-SCHOOL
KINGSTON



For more information
please visit, call or email:

holycrossprepschool.co.uk
020 8942 0729
admissions@holycrossprep.com

Little Sparks Holy Cross Pre-School
George Road
Kingston Upon Thames
Surrey
KT2 7NU