

Love God
Work Hard
Be Kind



Holy Cross
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Teacher of History

We are seeking to recruit an exceptional candidate to play an active part in our highly successful History department. The candidate should be committed to increasing academic standards through modern and innovative teaching, developing positive working relationships and involving themselves in extra-curricular activities, which encourage a passion for History. We welcome applications from ECTs and more experienced teachers.

Holy Cross is a Catholic High School established by the Catholic Community of the Chorley Deanery under the trusteeship of the Liverpool Archdiocese. We work in partnership with parishes and parents to provide the best possible education for our young people between the ages of 11 and 16, building on the foundations laid in Primary School and preparing for their future development at the Catholic Sixth Form College or other post-sixteen establishments, or in the world of employment and training.

Our teachers are supported to uphold the very highest standards of behaviour through centralised systems, and to teach exceptional lessons through shared planning.

The role:

The successful candidate will have the opportunity to grow with the school. They will be supported in their development and preparation for future roles. Teaching experience will not be a determining factor; we welcome applications from ECTs as well as more experienced candidates. We will develop every staff member who joins our team, providing one-to-one support, coaching and mentoring and access to extensive network training.

As a school, we offer:

- A supportive leadership structure
- A warm community in which your career will flourish
- A robust effective behaviour system with a clear and consistent policy
- A thorough and supportive induction process
- Bespoke CPD with individual membership to the National College
- Protected PPA
- Access to high-quality, regular professional development
- Opportunities to collaborate with colleagues across the Archdiocese of 36 Catholic secondary schools and sixth form colleges and the local authority
- Continual review of working practices and staff workload
- Lancashire reward scheme including staff discount scheme in partnership with Vivup, financial benefits and Employee Assistance Programme

Contract: Full-time hours,
permanent contract

Start date: September 2026

Salary: MPR/UPR

Closing date: 12 noon, Thursday 4
December 2025

Interview: TBC

You will:

- Have an unwavering determination to deliver excellence for pupils from all starting points
- Share and demonstrate our school's ethos
- Be committed to our ethos of high expectations for every pupil in both academic achievement and personal development
- Be committed to continually improving classroom practice and raising attainment
- Manage behaviour effectively to create a positive, calm and purposeful climate for learning
- Have the drive, skills and resilient character required to help develop our school
- Combine subject matter expertise with a passion for teaching your subject
- Be reflective about the school and committed to securing its continued development
- Have an excellent attendance and punctuality record



Child Protection Statement

In this school, the welfare of the child is paramount. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

All staff should understand their responsibility to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Staff are responsible for their own actions and behaviour and should avoid any conduct which would lead any reasonable person to question their motivation and intentions. Staff should work, and be seen to work, in an open and transparent way.

Attitudes towards promoting and safeguarding the welfare of our children and young people will be scrutinised during the selection process for the post that you have applied for. If you are appointed to this post, information in relation to safeguarding and protecting children and young people will be provided at induction. This practical guidance for safe working practice will provide information about which behaviours constitute safe practice and which behaviours should be avoided.

Please note that in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 an online search will be carried out as part of our due diligence on short-listed candidates.

Working at Holy Cross

At Holy Cross, we are a supportive community where relationships matter. We look after our staff with protected PPA, tea and toast at break times, termly staff activities and wellbeing afternoons. There is a book club you can join, staff social events and a weekly prayer group "Thank God it's Friday".

We pride ourselves on offering a harmonious and supportive environment for all staff through our Mission Statement "To have life and have it to the full" John 10:10. Our staff are valued and supported through bespoke CPD and development opportunities.

Facilities

Located off Myles Standish Way in Chorley, the grounds overlook the hills of Rivington. We are easily accessible via the M6, M61, A49 and A6. Where possible, teachers have their own classroom that they can take ownership of. We have a large multi purpose sports pitch, a separate Maths block with a drama suite and newly refurbished classrooms.

The facilities offered at Holy Cross are exceptional with many more exciting developments underway. Recent developments include:

- A new music room
- A new computer suite with 32 computers
- Two refurbished science classrooms - providing first-class science teaching facilities, as well as modern preparation rooms
- An additional Maths classroom
- Two additional English classrooms

More developments are planned for 2026/2027.



Working at Holy Cross

What do staff say about being a part of the Holy Cross community:

Mr Holliday, teacher of Geography "We have excellent pupils who want to learn. As staff, we are supported and given opportunities for development".



Mrs Coyle, Head of Maths "Working at Holy Cross offers the opportunity to be part of a vibrant, faith-driven community rooted in a strong Catholic ethos. Staff and pupils thrive in a supportive environment where wellbeing is prioritised and mutual respect is central to daily school life. Clear policies and routines ensure consistency, allowing teachers to focus on teaching and pupils to focus on learning. With the best interests of pupils always at heart, Holy Cross fosters a culture of care, collaboration, and excellence".

Mrs Milligan, Head of Geography "At Holy Cross you are able to focus on the fundamental reason you joined the profession - to teach and inspire a love of learning for your subject! There are clear behaviour systems in place to ensure that learning is the priority. Over the last seven years, I have also been heavily supported by the Senior Leadership Team in pursuing my ambitions and developing my career, something I am very grateful for."

Mrs Moss, PE Co-ordinator "Holy Cross has a supportive environment. There is a collaborative and caring atmosphere amongst staff and pupils".

Mrs Ogden, Teaching Assistant "Holy Cross is a place where staff and pupils are cared for, they respect and look after each other".

Miss Wane, Teacher of Maths and former pupil "I love working at Holy Cross. My favourite thing is how kind and respectful the pupils are, after finishing most lessons pupils leave the room saying, 'Thanks Miss'. It is a small gesture but really shows how much our pupils value the lessons we teach at Holy Cross".

Mrs Fletcher, Second in English "There is such a welcoming atmosphere from staff on reception and around school and everyone is willing to help each other out; there is a real sense of community that is like no other school I've ever worked in (and I've taught in three). The pupils are polite, friendly and genuinely enjoy coming to school, which makes the job worthwhile. It feels like they really care about our school".

Mr Simpson, Teacher of Science and parent "I work at Holy Cross because it's a school where you can actually focus on inspiring and teaching pupils rather than behaviour. I recommend the school to everyone I speak to because it's where I sent my children and where I will stay for the remainder of my career. The expectations of staff are high, but the reward is great in the pupils and lessons you are able to teach".

Miss Wallace, Assistant Headteacher "I choose to work at Holy Cross because it is a school where the Catholic community truly matters. From the day I started, I felt welcomed and supported by colleagues who genuinely care about one another and the pupils they serve. The pupils at Holy Cross are respectful, kind, and committed to their learning and this makes it a rewarding environment to work within. What also makes Holy Cross special is its strong Catholic ethos, which fosters a sense of purpose, respect, and compassion throughout the school community. Holy Cross is a place that makes you feel valued, where faith and learning go hand in hand, and where the atmosphere is one of care, aspiration, and shared values".

History at Holy Cross

Teacher of History

November 2025

Dear Applicant

Welcome to the History Department at
Holy Cross Catholic High School



An exciting opportunity to join our thriving and ambitious History Department has arisen, due to the promotion of a colleague. We are looking to appoint a highly enthusiastic and highly motivated History teacher to join a strong, successful and supportive team. The successful candidate will be required to teach across both KS3 and KS4 and be committed to providing high quality teaching and learning and to strive for excellence. The post is a fantastic opportunity to contribute and develop within a forward-thinking department. The successful candidate will not only be an excellent classroom teacher, but will also be able to contribute to developing curriculum, assessment and extra-curricular activities in History to a high level.

The History Department has been judged outstanding in reviews by the Senior Leadership Team and specifically praised by Ofsted in inspections. The teaching staff currently comprises of four strong and experienced specialists. The Head of Department has a proven track record in helping new staff develop rapidly, both as practitioners and in their career path. Exam results have been outstanding for many years. 50.5% of pupils attained grades 9-7, 78.2% of pupils attained 9-5 grades and 82.2% of pupils attained 9-4 grades in 2025. There were 19 grade 9s awarded.

We are committed to creative, exciting and enjoyable teaching but also adhere to traditional values to give pupils a firm knowledge and understanding of the subject. The Department has an excellent reputation in the school and has an outstanding uptake at KS4, with 10 classes running in 2025/26. The Department currently runs whole-school themed weeks and assemblies on Remembrance and the Holocaust.

Department resources are excellent, with specialist History rooms, a suite of laptops, a teaching resources store and consumables cupboard providing ample storage. The Department has a range of new textbooks, paper and electronic resources for all lessons, topic and depth study boxes and a network to share all lesson materials between department members. The successful candidate will also have their own classroom and will be able to put their own 'historical stamp' on it.

All pupils in Years 8 and 9 study History for 2 x 1 hours per week, with Year 7 having 1.5 hours per week. We follow structured schemes of learning which meet the updated National Curriculum and current GCSE requirements. All pupils who take GCSE History option in Years 10 and 11 take the AQA GCSE Modern World examination, with the topics of World War 1, Elizabeth, Health and Germany.

The Department runs trips to Warwick Castle, Liverpool Slavery Museum, the Great War Battlefields in Belgium and France and also trips to Berlin and Auschwitz. These trips invariably sell out rapidly and increase pupil engagement and interest.

The school is committed to providing a comprehensive and tailored training programme for both more experienced teachers and ECTs. There are also opportunities to be part of wider networks. We would welcome applications from both ECTs and more experienced teachers.

"I love History. Teachers make lessons fun and interesting and the topics we learn about in class help us understand the world today" Year 9 pupil 2025.

"The trips in History are brilliant. They really make you think and the places we go to have left amazing memories. I laid a wreath of poppies at the Menin Gate during the Battlefields Tour to Belgium and France and visited Auschwitz the next year. Both are experiences I will never forget" Year 11 pupil 2025.

Matt Murray
Head of History

History at Holy Cross

Trips and visits:

Berlin

In the summer term, Year 10 and 11 pupils visit one of the key cities of modern history – Berlin. The aim of the tour is to explore the establishment of Germany, a modern superpower in the 1800s under the Kaisers, and then understand the dramatic and world-changing events during the Weimar, Nazi and Cold War periods during the 20th Century. The pupils have guided tours of the Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag, Hitler's bunker, Holocaust Memorial, National War Memorial, the Berlin Wall and Checkpoint Charlie amongst other important historical sites.

We will return to Berlin for our 2027 tour.

Tour of Krakow

Every two years, the History Department visits the beautiful Polish city of Krakow. A key theme of the GCSE trip is extended study tours of the camps at Auschwitz and Birkenau. The tour also involves visiting the former Jewish ghetto, the salt mines and the Oskar Schindler factory. The trip is part of the Holy Cross commitment to Holocaust education and pupils who participate often help lead Holocaust Memorial Week assemblies.

The Battlefields

In October every year, Year 9 pupils and teachers set off from school on our annual pilgrimage to visit the battlefields memorial and cemeteries of the First World War. We spend two days in Ypres, Belgium and visit Tyne Cot, Langemarck, Essex Farm, Vancouver Corner and the two best Great War Museums in the Ypres Salient.

The pupils get to explore some of the only preserved original trenches of World War 1 and participate in the world famous Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate. The final two days of the tour explore the haunting and desolate battlefields of the Somme. This is history in its most raw and bloody state.



Job Description

Teacher of History



Responsible to:

- Headteacher, SLT link, Head of History

Key Responsibilities

Teaching and Learning

- To consistently plan and deliver lessons to a high standard to our pupils
- To promote engagement, resilience, self-confidence, collaboration and independence through classroom teaching
- To adhere to schemes of work and assessment procedures, in line with the department
- To set meaningful homework when required
- To ensure that lessons take into account the full ability range and to make appropriate use of information and support from the SEND department
- To analyse strengths and learning needs and to agree learning targets with pupils
- To monitor the progress of individual pupils using the school's tracking systems
- To provide pupils with regular and constructive feedback on their progress through verbal feedback and the marking of work
- To keep accurate and informative records in line with school and department policy on assessment and recording
- To observe outstanding peers in Holy Cross and beyond in order to improve their own practice

History

- To assist the Head of Department in meeting the requirements of the National Curriculum or examination syllabus and ensure all pupils are thoroughly prepared for public examinations
- To ensure continuity and progression in the curriculum for each pupil within and across Key Stages
- To create a classroom environment which supports and stimulates learning
- To show a passion for History and to keep improving historical knowledge to enrich learning

Learning and Collaborating

- To liaise with other subject teachers where appropriate in order to promote interdisciplinary learning
- To plan lessons that, where possible, promote the development of literacy skills
- To work as part of a departmental team, reviewing and developing the curriculum and producing resources to support learning for the full ability range
- To attend department and whole staff meetings
- To support other members of the department and school community through the sharing of skills and experience

Professional Requirements

- To act as form tutor ensuring sound pastoral care and guidance for pupils
- To produce data reports to parents
- To attend Parents' Evenings and provide parents with information relating to their child's progress and how to improve their level or grade
- To take part in performance management processes in accordance with school policy
- To carry out any such other reasonable duties in connection with subject teaching that may be required by the Headteacher of the school

Person Specification

Teacher of History



Skills and Knowledge

- Ability to work effectively within a team environment, understanding teaching roles and responsibilities
- Excellent classroom practitioner; strong teaching skills and an ability to enthuse and engage pupils
- Ability to create, monitor and develop engaging schemes of learning for KS3 and KS4 in History
- Understanding of current issues and curriculum developments relating to the teaching of History
- Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with staff, parents, children and young people and act as a role model to staff and pupils
- Excellent time management and personal organisational skills
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Excellent ICT skills; the ability to use new technology effectively to enhance learning opportunities for pupils in History
- Ability to use pupil data to track achievement, intervene, target set and inform planning
- An ability to improve their own practice through observations, evaluations and discussions with colleagues and wider History networks
- Demonstrate a resilience, motivation and commitment to raising standards of achievement of pupils of all aptitudes and abilities

Experience and Qualifications

- Qualified Teacher Status
- Honours degree in History or related subject
- A' Level in History
- Commitment to regular and on-going professional development and training to establish outstanding classroom practice

Professional Values

- A willingness to promote the Catholic ethos of the school
- Demonstrate and promote the positive values, attitudes and behaviour they expect from the pupils with whom they work
- High expectations of all pupils; respect for their social, cultural, linguistic, religious and ethnic background and a commitment to raising their educational achievements
- A growth mindset and an excitement about learning new things
- A commitment to equal opportunities
- Willingness to engage in extra-curricular activities and seek to enlist outside practitioners and resources to enhance learning opportunities
- A good sense of humour and highly enthusiastic about working with young people

For more information about our school, please visit: www.holycross.lancs.sch.uk

For an informal discussion or to arrange a visit please contact:

Mr M Murray, email: m.murray@holycross.lancs.sch.uk or Tel: 01257 262093

Completed application forms to be returned to vacancies@holycross.lancs.sch.uk

This appointment is subject to the current conditions of employment of teachers contained in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, the required standards for Qualified Teacher Status, other current educational legislation and the school's articles of governance. Candidates should also refer to the most up to date Teacher Standards for the generic responsibilities of a main pay scale teacher. This job description may be amended at any time following discussion between the Headteacher and member of staff, and will be reviewed annually.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS Disclosure.



Holy Cross

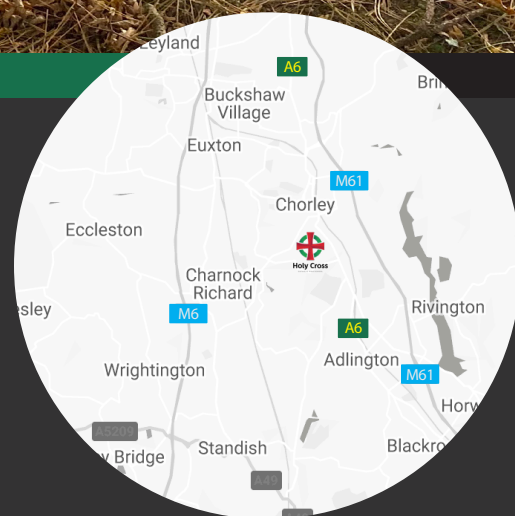
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

TELEPHONE 01257 262093

ONLINE www.holycross.lancs.sch.uk

E-MAIL vacancies@holycross.lancs.sch.uk

X @holycrosschol



How to find us

Holy Cross Catholic High School,
Myles Standish Way, Chorley, PR7 3LS

Conveniently situated with good transport links via
the M61, M6 and A6 to Wigan, Preston, Bolton,
Manchester, and mainline train station.