

Holy Cross Public Consultation Meeting

Holy Cross PS School Enhanced Provision

Date: 23 January 2026

Start Time: 18:04 End Time: 19:02

Venue: Holy Cross Ps

Notes/Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Present:

J Mcparland	Chief Officer (Education – South)
A Henry	Senior Education and Families Manager
S Stevenson	Inclusion Manager
C McShane	Cluster Integration and Improvement Lead
Y MacBean	Assistant Principal Officer (Inclusion) (notes)
L Macpherson	Project Coordinator – Learning Environment (notes)
D Lees	Project Coordinator – Learning Environment (notes)

Q: Is 26 May date we will find out?

A: Yes, This is date when the Education and Families Committee will meet to formally decide on the proposal. We will have catered for all eventualities. It will be May when parents/carers find out also. Papers go live on public domain a week prior to committee.

Q: What is plan B?

A: If decision is yes, we will contact HT with decision, they will communicate to parents and move to permanent recruitment. If the decision is no, an emergency CREST panel will be arranged to place children. This isn't what we want but we are being transparent. There has been considerable financial investment into establishing 5 Enhanced Provisions, from different departments of the council, finance, legal and democratic. It's important to say this has been shared with committee at various stages. Elected members are aware of this investment; we engage in a regular basis.

- S: As parents you need to trust us, we have a commitment that we will maintain communication with HT but we can't pre-empt a live consultation or speak on behalf of elected members. We can share the support we have had up to this stage and this has been cross party support.
- S: Our job is to take all feedback, including pupil voice and data/info that sits with this. When paper goes to committee this will be included. We will push for this to happen on a permanent basis. HMIE will visit stakeholders and pupils also and form an opinion.
- S: All committee meetings are available to view online, you can go on and view previous meetings and see questions and answers provided.
- Q: Current cohort, would they continue into P2?
- A: Children here would remain in Holy Cross until they finish primary education. No new cohort will start here in Aug 2026 and no new CREST application is made each year for your child. They have been allocated for 7 years. Children are integral to the community and this can only happen if they here building culture and inclusivity
- We are working with HTs and listening. Due to personal care, breaks, children accessing mainstream, there is a part of day where there are adults out of room. We now have approval for a 15 hr Learning Assistant post which is out to advert, to cover this period of time during the day.
- We will look to continue staffing model, working with team and improving whilst children's needs change.
- S: We are learning with pilot, we chose 5 schools because of the strong leadership, welcoming environment, supportive ethos from staff and kids. We felt schools chosen would embrace this as they are inclusive. We have encountered things we didn't plan for e.g. staffing, principal teacher but this is beauty of pilot, we can learn from bumps along the road and they inform decisions we take forward for next pilots.
- Q: How do you quantify pupil voice when HMIE visit?
- A: Children give feedback in different ways. We look at soft indicators like how happy and settled they are coming into school and also hard indicators like attendance. Talking mats are also utilised
- Q: Is there a plan to increase pupil numbers? We all want it to work, the support for children is amazing but it's only this way because of the staff. If pupil numbers increased this feedback would change.

- A: No, there is a maximum number of 10 children.
- Q: Longer term will this expand again in the future for pupils who require more support?
- A: A data summit in Edinburgh hosted by the Scottish Government provided us with national information on ASN pupil numbers. The numbers have increased nine-fold but the resources have not. We need to upskill staff in all sectors and everyone needs to be equipped to successfully accommodate needs for learners with ASN. It's a priority in our service improvement plan
- S: It's in line with our observations before panel. We need to look at the needs of children and follow children from a much earlier point to map out their trajectory. We have also changed matrix, it now looks at need of child rather than the educational establishment that they attend.
- Q: What are the names of the primary schools of the next 3 EP's, can you share this?
- A: No not yet, will be in public domain in paper for 26 May committee
- Q: If the teacher is absent how will staffed be covered?
- A The same way as any other teacher, the school would use the supply list. Other school staff are keen to get involved and upskill themselves and build positive relationships with the children by working within the EP.
- Q Will all children in EP get a specialist secondary placement?
- A: Explained scoring and how this has changed, based on adult support required throughout the day. No child is at a detriment if they are in mainstream. This is from Early Years through to Secondary provision
- Q: Do children stay in same class, as they get older the resources required will change.
- A: We don't know how much finding we have but we know there is a need for revised resources and furniture.
- S: P6 buddies are loving being in the class and have developed great relationships with the children in the EP. There are huge benefits to all pupils across the whole school
- Q: Will EP recruitment change if the pilot becomes permanent?
- A: If approved, this would lie with school and they would advertise a perm member of staff, the HT would be responsible for recruitment.

JMcP closed the meeting, thanking everyone for their attendance and encouraged everyone to provide feedback.