

HALL CROSS ACADEMY PROSPECTUS

Enjoying excellence every day

CONTENTS

- 02. Contents
- 03. Welcome to Hall Cross Academy
- 03. Hall Cross - Historical Facts
- 04. Joining Hall Cross Academy
- 05. Hall Cross Learner
- 06. Getting to and from School / School Day / School Calendar 2025/26
- 07. School Uniform 2025/26
- 08. School Uniform - PE Kit 2025/26
- 09. Personal Appearance
- 10. Curriculum / Key Stage 4
- 11. Attendance / Rewards / Principles and Aims of Homework
- 12. School Meals / ParentPay
- 13. Extra-Curricular Activities
- 14. Support and Intervention / Well-being and Safety
- 15. Student Testimonials
- 16. The Leadership Team
- 17. **Destinations Map**

OUR PROSPECTUS

Our prospectus, together with further details about Hall Cross and useful policies, are available on our website: www.hallcrossacademy.co.uk. The website is regularly updated with announcements and key dates, along with electronic copies of letters sent home.



Hall Cross Academy, Thorne Road, Doncaster, DN1 2HY

Tel: 01302 320626 Web: hallcrossacademy.co.uk

/officialhallcrossacademy



@officialhallx 🗾



WELCOME TO YOUR ACADEMY

Thank you for your interest in Hall Cross Academy and taking the time to consider the school as the choice for the next stage in your child's education.

As a school we are committed to ensuring that all students have access to the best opportunities and education. The staff we appoint and the curriculum that we offer ensures that students are the focus of everything we do.

We continue to achieve high levels of academic success, consistently achieving outcomes above national standards. More importantly however, we strive to ensure all students move onto the next stage of their lives equipped not only with the

appropriate qualifications but also the skills to be successful and well rounded citizens.

As a truly good school we are never complacent, striving to always reach the next level of excellence in provision for our students.

I am confident that your child will enjoy a fulfilling and rewarding education at Hall Cross Academy and we look forward to your application.



Historical Facts
Cross Acad

Principal

School **Established**

Doncaster Grammar School was established around the time of the Black Death, making it over 600 years old

New School Buildings, seen from the huts

For over thirty years teaching was carried out in the huts. These were temporary units to cope with the rising number of pupils in the twenties.



Merger and Comprehensive Status

n 1970, Doncaster Grammar School merged with Doncaster Municipal High School for Girls, becoming co-educational. The school adopted a comprehensive structure in 1983 and was renamed Hall Cross Comprehensive.

Sir George

Gilbert Scott



Heritage Listing

The original 1869 building is a listed Grade II heritage site, recognised for its architectural and historical importance



The oldest building on the Town Centre site, designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott, LICIA DE is a classic example of Victorian Gothic Revival



extended in 1938 by Julian Leathart.

The Hall **Cross Name**

The school is named after the Hall Cross, a monument on Hall Cross Hill, opposite the school's location The original monument is said to have been put up in the 12th century. This memorial cross was rebuilt in 1793.



The Old Dane

Doncaster Grammar School Cadet

The Cadet Corps were

efficient sectional commander

Seventy boys divided into four sections, each with an

The Railway Society

The D.G.S.

in the old

Headmaster's

Railway Society

founded in 1936

Corps - Signal Squadron, 1915

Former students of Doncaste Grammar School are known as Old Danensians and maintain connections with the school through various events and



Municipal High School For Girls, Doncaster

THE HERHISHE ENGLISHED

Hall Cross Academy

In 2012-2013, the school changed its name to Hall Cross Academy, marking a further stage in its evolution.

JOINING HALL CROSS ACADEMY

Moving to secondary school is an exciting, yet challenging, experience for children and their parents.

To help with this transition, we have a number of things in place:

- Links between Headteachers and key staff within our family of schools for planning the calendar of transition activities.
- Sharing successful teaching strategies between Hall Cross and primary schools to ensure good progression into, and through, Year 7.
- An Open Evening in October for you to meet the Leadership Team and teachers, visit departments and sample activities.

- · Induction days during the year for all Year 6 students who will start with us in September.
- Our Year 7 year manager, coupled with the SENDCO visit all primary schools from which we receive students. This ensures we have all the relevant academic data, alongside other important information for all students prior to their arrival.
- · Children with special needs or particular requirements are offered more extensive support with transition and induction. Please contact the academy if you would like further advice.
- There is an opportunity for 1:1 visits for vulnerable, anxious students.

The pupil admission number for each year group is 310.

Hall Cross Academy is oversubscribed annually. When applying please put us as first choice to avoid disappointment.



HALL CROSS LEARNER

At Hall Cross Academy we have high expectations of our students and always promote positive behaviours and we expect all students to display the values of the Hall Cross Learner. The Hall Cross Learner values were designed by students for students and represent the values that we, as a school, see as integral to creating the next generation of powerful learners.



A Hall Cross Learner has the following qualities:

Literate

Students speak and write using formal Standard English. They choose words and sentences carefully so they can express themselves clearly, powerfully and creatively. Students use their green pen to mark spelling, punctuation and grammar consistently. Students read widely and regularly.

Creative

Students think creatively. When they get stuck, they try different ways to find a solution. Students are resilient and understand that mistakes are an important part of learning.

Team Player

Students are confident about working in groups. They join in well, take on different roles and take them seriously. Students listen well to others and take and build on their ideas. They include others and help them to succeed.

Respectful

Students recognise that the classroom is a learning environment. They respect other students' work and their right to learn ensuring that their efforts in the classroom enable all students to make progress and learn.

Independent

Students are determined and independent. They know their strengths and what they need to do to improve. Students know their current levels and how to reach their targets. Students are motivated and organise their time so they can learn and make progress every day. Students are aware of the skills they have developed and they use them to complete tasks.

Motivated

Students enjoy learning and look forward to lessons. They know that every minute counts and they arrive on time, well equipped and ready to start learning. Students work closely with teachers and students and get on well with them. Students display a thirst for learning and participate actively in class.

Prouc

Students are proud of what they achieve. They take care with their work and ensure it is the best it can be, having a 'Proud Book'. Students learn a lot every day and make lots of progress. They value other students' work and they are happy for others when they succeed.

CARE

At Hall Cross, our students enjoy celebrating and promoting our values through our CARE programme. CARE stands for:

Community Achievement Respect Equality









GETTING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

The Academy is well served by public bus services.

There is a bike shed on the Lower School Campus, and we encourage bikes to be secured with a lock.

Parents are welcome to drive their children to Hall Cross Lower School Campus although access to the Academy does become congested, particularly at the end of the school day.

In the interests of safety for all our students, our gates are closed to non-staff members during the school

day and parents are unable to drive their cars onto Academy premises. We recommend parents drop off and pick up students at the Lakeside entrance from where students can walk on the footpath to the playground.

The Upper School Campus is situated on Thorne Road in the town centre and can be accessed by all service buses. Parking and facilities for drop-off are unfortunately very limited on the Upper School campus.

SCHOOL DAY

Preparation for Higher Education	Wednesday Afternoon Enrichment	
08:40 - 09:50	Registration	
09:50 - 10:55	Period 2	
10:55 - 11:25	Break	
11:25 - 12:25	Period 3	
12:25 - 13:30	Period 4	
13:30 - 14:10	Lunch	
14:10 - 15:10	Period 5	



SCHOOL UNIFORM 2025/26

ation	fication
	from tore
	from core.
ers, Lycra, drainpipe / corative	ed denim, osters, Lycra, or drainpipe / decorative ills.
lazers (not	m Cliffs. blazers (not or a blazer).
	directly offs.
ptable. ned to be sers are	d in. Short ceptable. gned to be busers are able.
o sandals, ops or ots.	os, stripes, No sandals, flops or boots. Id not be at any time.
r or over tops or tops made	der or over uit tops or p tops made be material.
alculator. ught to	cil, Ruler, Calculator. rought to ryday.
	The second second

SCHOOL UNIFORM PE KIT 2025/26

Uniform item	Compulsory or optional?	Standards – details	Further clarification	
Sports Hoodie or 1/4 Zip Top	Compulsory	Black with red trim- with Academy logo	*Please note you	
Sports shirt	Compulsory	Red with black trim – with Academy logo	have a choice between Sports Hoodie or ¼ Zip Top	
Shorts	Compulsory	Black – with Academy logo	Purchased from Cliffs in store.	
Waterproof sports jacket	Optional	Black with Academy logo		
Jogging bottoms/ sports leggings	Compulsory	Black		
Socks	Compulsory	Black sports socks OR white ankle socks	Available from sports retailers.	
Footwear	Compulsory	Sports trainers - any colour with laces		
Swimming kit	Compulsory	One piece swimming costume or shorts/ trunks suitable for swimming		

Please note when purchasing PE kit that students will be expected to take part in two hours of PE per week. This involves a majority of the lessons taking place outdoors during the winter so we ask that you send your children to school dressed appropriately for adverse weather conditions.

Scan the QR code to find out more information about our uniform and expectations.





PERSONAL APPEARANCE

HAIR COLOUR, MAKE-UP AND NAILS

- Hairstyles should be of a naturally occurring hair colour.
- Hairstyles that the Academy consider extreme will not be permitted.

- Make-up should be minimal and discrete (no false eye lashes).
- Artificial nails of any type are not permitted.
- Nail polish, if worn, should be natural and discrete. (no false nails)

JEWELLERY AND PERSONAL ITEMS

Only the following items of jewellery are permitted in school:

- Jewellery should be limited to a watch (smartwatches are acceptable).
- Jewellery/tattoos worn for religious displays will be considered at the discretion of the Principal.
- Facial piercings are not permitted.

MOBILE PHONES

THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES IS A PRIVILEGE AND THEY CAN BE CONFISCATED

As handheld technology develops, mobile phones can be a very useful aid to learning. However, phones should only be used during lesson times at the request of the teacher, and should not be used inappropriately at any time.

Students can log into the Hall Cross WiFi while at school to use the internet. All school internet use is monitored as a matter of security and safeguarding. The Academy considers it a matter of parental responsibility when students use their own data for internet use or communication.

The Academy accepts no responsibility for loss or theft of handheld devices brought into school.

There is a mobile device policy within the wider e-safety policy and students receive e-safety lessons throughout the year which cover all aspects of Digital Literacy and Citizenship.



CURRICULUM KEY STAGE 3

The Key Stage 3 curriculum at Hall Cross provides the foundation on which future academic success can be built. The initial phase of the KS3 curriculum is to provide an effective transition from KS2. There is a clear understanding across the key stage, and across the academy as a whole, of the fact that students who feel safe and supported in their learning environment are more engaged and likely to fully achieve their potential.

Students graduate from KS3 following a comprehensive options process designed to ensure they move into subjects that best suit their skills, strengths and interests. This is secured through one to one meetings with members of SLT, ensuring students are ready for the challenges of KS4.

Key Stage Three						
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9			
	Hours	Hours	Hours			
English	4	4	4			
Geography	2	2	2			
History	2	2	2			
PSHCE/RE	1	1	1			
MFL	2	2	2			
Reading	1	0	0			
IT	1	1	1			
Maths	4	4	4			
Science	3	3	3			
ADT	2	2	2			
PA	1	2	2			
PE	2	2	2			
Total	25	25	25			

ADT: Rotating curriculum comprising Art, Food Technology, Graphics, Product Design and Textiles.

MFL: Y7 students will study either French or Spanish throughout KS3. Y9 students who wish to continue to study their KS3 language may have an additional hour, those not wishing to continue studying a language at KS4 will have an additional hour of science.

Performing Arts: Rotation of Drama and Music.

Science: Some classes will have an additional hour of science in year 9 in preparation for Triple Award GCSE sciences.

KEY STAGE 4

During Key Stage 4 at the Upper School Campus, students are able to study a traditional suite of GCSE subjects coupled with numerous opportunities not available in all schools at this stage. In the core subjects students are taught in sets with mixed groups the norm in foundation subjects. There is a continuation in the investment in PSHCE provision through the Life curriculum across both Year 10 & 11.

We have strong links with external providers to ensure students are fully aware of the options that are open to them by the end of GCSE. Links with universities, Doncaster College, numerous sporting associations, ICA perform accreditation and both local and national employers all serve to contribute to the fabric of

Hall Cross and the opportunities we provide for our learners. We also have strong links with the NHS that provides exposure to the plethora of careers that are available in this pathway.

All students study the Core Curriculum offer

Students choose three additional subjects across the EBACC and Open option columns

Scan the QR code to find out more information about Key Stage 4.



ATTENDANCE

School attendance is a high priority and we have an expectation of at least 97% attendance.

There is a well-documented link between students' attendance and their ability to progress in school; good attendance is also a prerequisite for future employment or progression into further education.

Parents are asked to contact the Academy on their child's first day of absence (before 9.00 a.m. if possible). Holidays in term time will not be granted, in accordance with Government legislation. Notice must be given in writing before any proposed holiday during term time.

Where the holiday is not granted or goes beyond that which is agreed, you may receive an Education Penalty Notice (EPN).

Further information is available from the Academy's attendance officers.

Rewards

At Hall Cross Academy recognising, rewarding and being proud of excellence is an important part of our shared values, and it takes place every day.

The Hall Cross Rewards Policy sees students receive points for displaying the values of the Hall Cross Learner, the student designed value system that focuses on being Literate, Creative, Team Player, Respectful, Independent, Motivated and Proud. Students also receive regular bonus rewards relating to their Hall Cross Learner Profile when we track progress.

Students accumulate points throughout the year earning, bronze, silver and gold badges. The points that are earned by students can also be used to purchase a range of prizes, from stationery to snacks, sports equipment to shopping vouchers.

In addition to this we also have termly and annual departmental awards for achievement and effort.

The Academy also supports the individual progression and recognition of success across all key stages through the iCARE programme. In this, students are given the opportunity to recognise and be recognised for their efforts in support of the key values of; Community, Achievement, Respect and Equality. Activities undertaken by our students, both in and outside of the Academy, are recognised and rewarded through a self-referral system and receive commendations from; their peers, student leaders, faculty and the senior leadership team based on their activity. Tasks are set at differentiated levels aimed at furthering the excellence in academia, employment and society ensuring access for all our students.

PRINCIPLES AND AIMS OF HOMEWORK

Hall Cross Academy aims to create an environment where learning outside the classroom is valued by students and is seen as an integral part of their academic success and development as young adults.

Key Stage 3:

Homework at KS3 focuses upon consolidation of classroom learning coupled with the development of key transferable skills which will underpin future academic success.

Key Stage 4:

Students will use the independent study skills gained in Key Stage 3 to manage longer-term pieces of work and projects. Many students require independently

produced coursework and deadlines for these will be published well in advance, together with opportunities to attend additional study sessions. Students will also cultivate effective revision techniques for external examinations.

Key Stage 5:

A much greater degree of self-management and additional reading and note-taking is required in order to handle the volume of work required to succeed in Post 16 courses, in addition to the tasks explicitly set by the teachers. The most successful students routinely re-draft class notes, read widely around the subject, refer to relevant websites and collaborate in discussion forums. Dedicated Post 16 study facilities have been designed to support these activities.

SCHOOL MEALS

Food and drinks are available for all students attending the Academy before school and at morning break and lunch.

Students can choose from a healthy range of hot and cold food, provided by Mellors Catering Services. Payment for school meals should be made in advance via ParentPay.

A biometric (finger print) recognition system is used by the Academy for students to purchase their food. Your written consent for this will be requested. Further information can be found in our Protection of Biometric Information of Children Policy, available on our website.

To ensure the safety of our students we insist that students remain in the school premises at lunchtime, They are free to either eat a school meal or alternatively a packed lunch.







PARENTPAY

Hall Cross Academy no longer routinely accept cash and cheque payments, aiming to make the school a cash-free environment.

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available.

Parents are each given a secure online account, activated using a unique username and password.

For parents without internet access payments can be made by PayPoint, located in local stores. A PayPoint card can be requested from the Finance Office, at the Upper School Campus.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Hall Cross Academy aims to create an environment where learning outside the classroom is valued by students, and is seen as an integral part of their academic success and development as young adults.

The Academy has an extensive programme of extracurricular activities offered by every department to enrich the academic curriculum offer.

Our well-established sporting record for both girls and boys is excellent, and provides opportunities for participation from the recreational to national representation. Many of our students also choose to participate in Sports Leadership activities with younger students. The Physical Education Department have been awarded the Gold Games Mark.

Our Duke of Edinburgh programme, now in its ninth year, is highly popular and oversubscribed.

The Performing Arts Department offers many opportunities for music, dance and theatre and our in-house performing arts school ICAP (imagine, create, achieve, perform) hosts many performances throughout the year attracting talented young performers from across the region.

The Academy has been awarded The Gold Artsmark for its outstanding performing arts offer.

In addition, students can become involved in the wider life of the school as members of the student leadership team, as Key Stage 4 prefects or Sixth Form ambassadors. There are also many opportunities throughout the school calendar to be active citizens by participating in local, national or international charity fundraising events and enterprise challenges.

The Library Resource Centres on both Academy Campuses are vibrant hubs of activity to suit all interests and help students to get involved in school life.

We have excellent links with local and regional employers who help to secure high quality work placements and deliver careers education and guidance. Additionally, established links with colleges and universities promote high asperations for our young people.

Finally, we continue to work in partnership with Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospital Trust to spearhead innovative new programmes and promote employment pathways in health sector.









SUPPORT AND INTERVENTION

Hall Cross Academy is committed to creating a well ordered, safe and secure environment for all our students, an environment built on mutual respect amongst students, and between students and staff.

This respect is fostered within a sympathetic and caring ethos where the needs of the student are put at the centre of all support and intervention.

Pastoral support is provided by Year Managers led by a Phase Leader for Care and Guidance at Key Stage 3, 4, 5.

Academic support and intervention is provided in the Core subjects (English, Mathematics and Science) to ensure students are making the necessary progress.

Hall Cross is committed to raising standards of literacy throughout the Academy. At Key Stage 3 all students undertake reading tests throughout the year to ensure that progress is being made in this vital area of learning. All students in Y7 will have a reading hour with our dedicated reading team, alongside contextualised reading in form time linked to our weekly CARE focus. Those who require further support will be offered reading intervention through our Thinking Reading programme. These students will attend three sessions per week.

The Inclusion Department is committed to meeting the needs of all students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) enabling them to achieve their potential; become confident individuals living fulfilling lives and make a successful transition into adulthood. Whether this be into employment, further or higher education or training. We aim to provide high quality support to students with a range of additional needs and those for whom English is an additional language. Support is provided by a team of experienced and dedicated teaching assistants (TAs) who work collaboratively with the class teachers and offer support to young people both inside and outside the classroom.

Students with SEND are involved in scripting their own 'One Page Profile', which describes their strengths and difficulties, and identifies ways that staff and other adults can support them. This co-planned document is shared with all teachers and support staff in school. All new students are screened for dyslexia in the first term which enables us to provide early intervention.

There is further support provided for students who are English speakers of other languages through our inclusion department.

For relevant policies linked to SEND and Behaviour please visit the Academy website.

Well-being and Safety

We are all responsible for maintaining a mutually respectful and harmonious environment and our policies and procedures reflect this.

In particular, our policies for the following are of interest and are available on our website for you to read:

- Equality and Diversity
- Behaviour
- E-safety
- Anti-bullying
- Safeguarding



WHAT OUR LEARNERS SAY...



Ava



When I came to Secondary School, I was scared but also excited. I had a lot of friends from Primary School, but my new teachers welcomed me with open arms and helped me when needed. They also gave me that extra push to be the best that I can be and as a result I felt awesome. I also became a part of the student council and now whenever something bad pops up, I immediately can think of solutions. Thank you Hall Cross for all the help.

Zain



Hall Cross is an amazing school. It is diverse and opens new opportunities for young teens to excel and to build new skills and hobbies. I'm really happy about joining this school. The opportunities are amazing.

Mariam



My current journey through Hall Cross has been a great one. Throughout Year 7, 8 and 9 there's always been an enjoyable topic in each lesson and they all somehow link, so it isn't confusing. The teachers are really supportive and reliable. I feel like I can speak freely with any teacher and they always understand and encourage me. Furthermore, my peers and friends are always there. We're all a range of different people with different personalities, religions and cultures but are always willing to be there for each other.

Addison



My first year at Hall Cross was scary, but the teachers are so kind and will help with anything no matter how embarrassing. There are also lots of clubs to get involved in like football, basketball, tennis, athletics and much more. My favourite subject was probably... all of them! All of the teachers are so nice and give me assistance whenever I need it. There is also a student council where anyone can get involved and discuss what you might want to add to Hall Cross Academy or even change about it.

Mia



Throughout my years at Hall Cross Academy I have experienced so much more than I thought I would. Throughout all of my lessons, I have always learnt something new and interesting. There are also plenty of lovely and supporting teachers there to guide you. My biggest worry when coming into Year 7 was making friends, but that is nothing to worry about as there are so many different people around me with different personalities and skill sets. One thing I love about Hall Cross are all the amazing opportunities that come with the extra curricular activities. There is always something for everybody including PE, ADT, and Performing Arts clubs!

YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Mr Swain Principal



Mrs Forsythe Senior Vice Principal Quality of Education



Mrs Massarella-Burton Associate Vice Principal Personal Development



Mr Goodchild Assistant Principal Quality of Education Teaching



Mr Parker Assistant Principal Quality of Education Progress



Mr McGuire Assistant Principal Professional Development



Mr Oliver Assistant Principal Quality of Education Curriculum



Mrs Johnson Associate Assistant Principal Quality of Teaching Lead Mentor ITT /ECT



Mr Mirfin Associate Assistant Principal Learner Experience



Mr Stewart Associate Assistant Principal Head of Sixth Form

YOUR LOWER SCHOOL TEAM



Paul Tyrer Key Stage 3 Learner Experience



Mr Wymer Key Stage 3 Learner Progress



Mrs Briggs Head of Year 7



Mrs Crowther Head of Year 8



Mrs Vickers Head of Year 9



Mrs Powell Year Manager



Mrs Laszkowicz Head of SEND



Mrs Hargrave
Designated
Safeguarding Lead

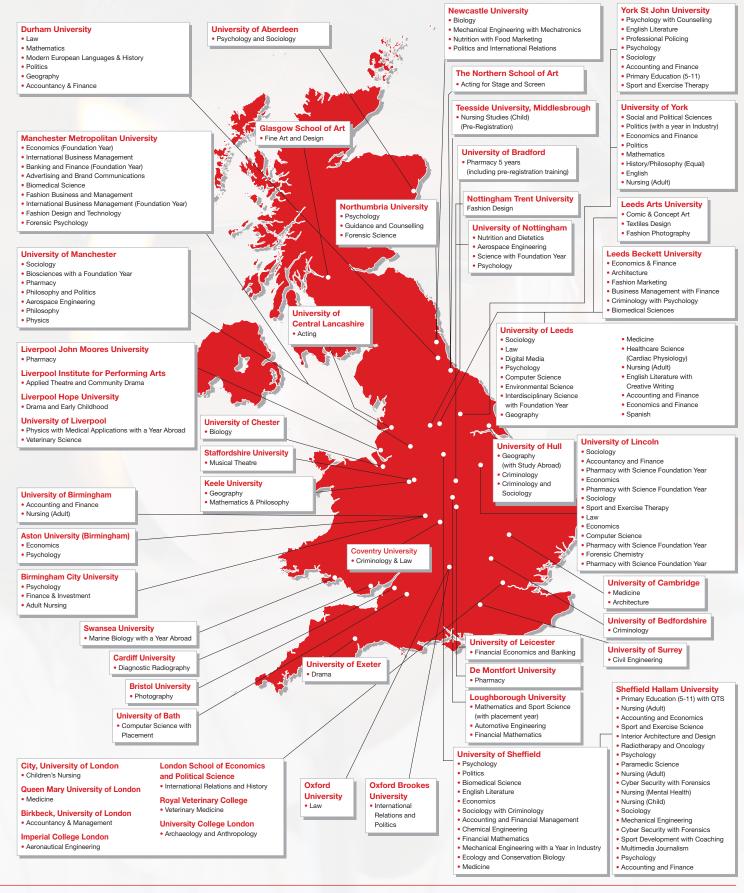


Mrs Stables Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



DESTINATIONS

MAP



Making enquiries

Many enquiries can be answered by contacting reception staff at either campus. If you wish to discuss something with a particular staff member who may not be immediately available, you will be called back at a mutually convenient time.

However, because we know that some issues need immediate attention, our Pastoral team includes non teaching Year Managers who can be responsive at any time.

Information about who our Year Managers are can be found on the academy website.



Enjoying excellence every day

Lower School Campus, St Michael's Road. Bessacarr, Doncaster, DN4 5LU

Upper School Campus, Thorne Road. Doncaster, DN1 2HY

Further contact details can be found on our website: hallcrossacademy.co.uk/contact-us/contact-us-online/

Tel: 01302 320626 Web: hallcrossacademy.co.uk

