



Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Research Ethics at HFCMAT

Holy Family Catholic MAT is a research informed trust. Through ongoing evaluation and review, we work to improve the organisation and meet our vision: Formation. Inspiration. Transformation in service of all members of our Community.

As part of this, our schools are consistently engaged in research-informed practice, which includes examining the impact we have on children's learning. As part of both day to day practices, and during specific focussed projects, this will sometimes involve research activities such as surveys, focus groups, or interviews with children and teachers in our schools.

Research findings may be shared within and beyond the trust, where relevant.

All research must be carried out with a number of key principles at the core, which in turn involves specific actions, such as ensuring that data collected will at all times be **anonymised**.

Starting from the fundamental need to protect the dignity, rights and welfare of all participants, our core principles include, but are not limited to:

- informed consent;
- voluntary participation, and;
- Confidentiality.

Informed consent is understood as information that can be collected from or about people only if they have understood the purpose of the research and what their participation entails, and have freely agreed to participate in it. Consent for children is collected from parents on Arbor.

Voluntary participation is best viewed as a continuous process rather than as a discrete and irreversible decision: participants need to be aware that they can withdraw at any point, for any or no reason.

Confidentiality procedures are followed in line with the trust's [GDPR policy](#).