



BROOKFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Brookfield Community School

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Headteacher: Mr K Hirst

24th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

End of half term update

As we approach the end of a very busy and productive half term, I am writing to update you on a number of areas, and to share some excellent news regarding our academic performance this summer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their ongoing support of school throughout this half term. Attendance has again been very strong and is above national and local comparisons. Good attendance is vital for students if they are to achieve their full potential and we value the support that families provide in this area. Many thanks also to families for their fantastic support of our whole school sponsored walk in support of Ashgate Hospice. With the final donations in, the sum raised is **£15,532.36**, which is an incredible effort.

Brookfield is the top performing school in Derbyshire

The government last week published performance data from the summer 2023 GCSE exams for all secondary schools, sixth forms and colleges. I am delighted to report that Brookfield's performance was once again very impressive. In fact, the published data shows Brookfield to be the top performing school in the whole of Derbyshire.

The main measure the government uses to judge secondary school academic performance is Progress 8 (P8). A school's Progress 8 score compares the progress made by its students (from the end of primary school to the end of secondary school) with all schools nationally. Our P8 score of **+0.51** – along with other performance measures used by the DfE - represents performance which is categorised as 'Well Above Average', the only school in Derbyshire in this category. Data can be seen at the official DfE portal - 'Find and check the performance of schools and colleges in England' - which can be found here:

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=830&geographic=la&for=secondary>

I know you will agree that this represents outstanding performance. These results improve even on last year's and represent the strongest in the school's history. Alongside our extensive and growing extra-curricular provision, this is a real platform on which future success will be achieved.

Curriculum Plus

We are very pleased to offer a vibrant co-curriculum programme for our students – a programme we call *Curriculum Plus*. We want every student to have opportunities beyond the classroom, be this in trips and visits, competitions, clubs and societies. We are about to launch

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a new Inter-House Competition, with different Houses competing to win The Brookfield Cup. Details of our Curriculum Plus offer can be found [here](#).

Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 16th November

Numbers in the Sixth Form continue to grow. In current Year 12 we have almost 150 students. In Year 13 there are more than 100. One of our key events of the year is our Sixth Form Open Evening. This is an exciting opportunity for Year 11 students and parents to find out more about the courses on offer and about what to expect from life in our Sixth Form. Information about this evening will be sent out shortly. We do hope you can join us for this important school event.

Brookfield Christmas Market – Friday 17th November

Another important date in the school calendar is our Christmas Market, which this year takes place at a slightly earlier date on Friday 17th November from 17.30pm. Organised by our BPFA, the market is a wonderful event and an opportunity to grab some early Christmas gifts. Check our social media for updates and for how you might get involved.

Brookfield News


The latest edition of *Brookfield News* will be published this week. This provides a glimpse into the wider life of the school over this half term.

Parent Communication Policy

After half term we will share a new Parent Communication Policy. This provides useful information for parents in terms of contacting school. A summary document from the policy is provided at the end of this letter, for your information.

As always, thank you for your support of school throughout this term. I wish you all a restful half term break.

Yours faithfully



Keith Hirst
Headteacher



**BROOKFIELD
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL**



**REDHILL
ACADEMY TRUST**

Equality and Achievement



OUR COMMUNICATION POLICY

PLEASE THINK ABOUT THESE **5 STEPS**
BEFORE CONTACTING SCHOOL

1

Consider which communication method is best for the situation.

Some conversations are best face to face, whilst others, given their nature, may be quickly resolved over the phone or via the 'Contact Us' form/email.



Our office hours are 08.00-16.00.

Staff are not expected to be available in the evenings or at weekends.

2

3

We will respond within 2 working days.

We want our communication to be timely as this is in the best interest of our students and we will endeavour to respond to all appropriate communications. The greatest challenge we face is the high volume of communications.

We will prioritise communications based on need but must stress that we cannot operate as an emergency service. There may be times that we are able to respond sooner than this; however, there may also be times when school is exceptionally busy, when this timescale is not achievable.



Appointments with staff must be booked in advance.

This is to avoid disappointment. Many of our staff will be teaching or in meetings during the course of a school day. Anyone arriving to reception unannounced will be advised to request a meeting, unless the matter is deemed an emergency.

4

5

All communication should be respectful

