

Year 7 Parent Responses

Learning Review Day 20th November 2015

Thank you for attending our Learning Review Day, we hope that you found the day informative and you are happy with how your daughter has settled at Broughton Hall Catholic High School.

We asked for your opinion on a number of issues and would like to take the time to respond to your thoughts.

127 parents felt that the transition meeting was excellent here at Broughton Hall, 3 felt that it was good and 2 rated it satisfactory.

We constantly strive to improve these meetings and update the information so that parents and carers are as fully informed as possible.

You told us that some primary schools do not have transition meetings.

We are working more closely with our primary feeder schools in particular this year so that all pupils will have met with the Director of Transition and Head Teacher before joining us in September.

All parents who responded felt that their daughters were prepared for transition however 2 parents did request that there had been more visits to Broughton Hall.

We are hoping that the summer term will allow us the opportunity to bring pupils into school on more occasions to experience some of the subjects they may not do in primary.

131 parents felt that the work their daughter's are doing is pitched at the right level 1 thought it was too difficult in certain subjects.

We monitor lessons and curriculum provision to have an oversight of what is being taught within each subject area. The Year 7 curriculum booklet can be found on our website and you may request a paper copy from school.

Parents who have had concerns about how their daughter has settled, have spoken to the school and issues have been resolved.

The progress and support manager will always respond to your concerns and work together to the benefit of your daughter.

129 parents feel that their daughter is receiving enough homework, 2 said that their daughter does homework in homework club so they do not see her doing it at home, 1 felt that their daughter is struggling to cope.

We do have a homework timetable and the McAuley centre is available Tuesday – Thursday night until 5.15pm for your daughter to complete homework. If there is an issue then your daughter can speak to the member of staff or you can contact us to discuss further.

All parents believe that good attendance is important.

It has been important to raise the profile of attendance within school as the government has made this a priority area this year.

Our response to your comments:

My daughter has some chronic conditions and has been absent therefore she couldn't go to Blackpool and I expect can't go to the pantomime. I feel that this is punishing her for something out of her control, perhaps the reward could be considered for good behaviour

We do understand that sometimes pupils are too unwell to attend school. The attendance reward is intended as recognition for superb attendance. Our end of year reward does take some illness into account. We are trying to establish behaviour rewards and agree that this would recognise your daughter's good behaviour and commitment to school.

I would like to see more parent / teacher interaction, communication, possibly through the school's website.

There is a parents section of the website where we attempt to put all relevant information. You can always contact your daughter's progress tutor via email and these may be found on our website.

My daughter was absent for two days with a stomach bug and the letter received felt threatening.

We apologise that you felt this way, this was not our intention. It is important that if your daughter is absent for any reason then you contact the school on the first morning of absence to give a reason.

Would like to receive progress reports each term.

We are currently looking into the possibility of accomplishing this.

My child has settled in very well. The open night was very good. My daughter is really happy and as parents we are delighted we chose Broughton Hall.

Thank you we are pleased that everything has been so positive.

There should be more social groups to help bonding with other children. We received no information with regards to lunch on day 1.

There are clubs at lunch times which are supervised by Year 12 prefects to help with social bonding and there is a paired reading programme on Friday mornings. During wet weather there are a number of activities on the Year 7 hub so that there is something on offer to all pupils.

Transition went very well. We are very happy with first months at B Hall.

Thank you, we do hope that this continues.

We are happy with the steps that staff are taking to keep our daughter on track and the overall support the school is giving.

We are proud of the pastoral support here at Broughton Hall and the daily monitoring of pupils by progress tutors.

Maybe more than 1 day to meet other girls especially when not coming from feeder school. She wanted to join clubs but by the time she had settled in they had already started and she felt she couldn't join.

We will bear this in mind as we move forward with the transition programme. All pupils are reminded about clubs during weekly assemblies, we will reassure pupils that it is never too late to start.

A school bus would make transition easier. I never get any letters home.

We have invested in a new mailing system which will be up and running in the very near future, this will enable us to send all letters via email. Please ensure that school has your email address.

Our daughter has had a lot of absences due to illness that as a family we have all suffered, this will now improve as we are recovering.

Thank you

Introduction to form tutors would have made transition easier.

We will endeavour that all pupils will meet their progress tutors on the induction day in July.

I am very pleased with transition and report and hope she continues to love B Hall.

My daughter is enjoying B Hall and making progress

Ms Reid was excellent; we had a pre tour of the school and a chat and calmed all our fears. Rewards for excellent attendance are a great idea but when your child is genuinely ill for a day their reward is taken away i.e. being penalised for illness when you are an excellent pupil seems unfair.

We do not intend to penalise illness. We recognise that pupils will occasionally be too ill to attend school and are trying hard to recognise the fantastic achievement of 100% attendance. We have a reward trip each half term in order to allow all pupils to realistically achieve 100% and go on a trip. For reward trips we count half termly attendance.

To make transition easier; more information at the start of the year so that we have much better notice of days out of school. So far year 7 have had 3 days off school and only one of these is on the website, this causes great problems for working parents who want to support and attend review meetings not to mention child care issues when notice is less than 1 week. It would also help to have review meetings after school so as not to disrupt learning and avoid the problems already mentioned especially as parents are not allowed to take children out of school in term time for that very reason. Please update the website with all key dates for parents.

The website is an extremely important communication tool between school and parents and we agree that it should be up to date. We have looked into this and have remedied the situation. Also we now have a new emailing system so that all letters can go directly to parents via email this should

allow for faster communication. On Learning Review days we do our best to accommodate parent requests and staff often start meetings earlier in the morning and finish later than the end time.

Had appointment time but teacher did not call me over and another parent took my place, needs improving.

When going to review day teachers need to ask parents' names as given a set time and other parents who are there early take your slot.

We will review the running of Learning Review Day in the light of your comments.

The transition was done very well, I can't think of anything else the school could have done

Everything was great, so far so good.

Everything was excellent

I think the transition was excellent.

I am very pleased with my daughter's transition and report and hope she continues to love B Hall.

My daughter is enjoying B Hall and making progress

We are glad that the transition has been so positive.

Not seeing enough feedback on homework. Summer project worked very hard but why bother making all that effort if it's not going to be returned with feedback.

The Summer Project was an important exercise and we apologise that not enough feedback was given. This will be made a priority moving forward. Progress tutors have monitored completion of Summer Project work and certificates and prizes are to be awarded in the end of term celebration

There is too much homework, it is relentless sometimes, well more than an hours' worth.

There is a homework timetable which can be found on the website and in the curriculum booklet. We will remind staff to adhere to this.

I was very happy with how they helped my daughter's transition into school. Summer school was great. Lots of information and very friendly staff to answer any problems I had.

The summer school my daughter attended was an excellent way to prepare her for a new school

I am really pleased with how K has settled in and her progress

Transition; I think you did enough; it's just a big step for them. Maybe told us that the girls can't wear cardigans. The summer school was a great help.

My daughter enjoys school and has settled well.

Transition went well – you did everything.

I am delighted with how my daughter has settled thank you

My daughter has settled really well.

Concerns discussed with teacher and year head, excellent outcome.

We thought the summer school was an excellent idea, it helped greatly. Happy with the support offered. We have no concerns, we telephoned regarding a couple of issues which were dealt with promptly and to our satisfaction.

Attended summer camp which was fantastic. Would be good for a child to see a typical timetable and home work timetable so they know what to expect. Overall, extremely pleased with my daughter's experience in her first term.

My daughter is really enjoying B Hall and is well settled as far as I know.

Excellent school, I am pleased with the discipline process and my child is happy.

Thank you for all the positive comments. We too are pleased with how your daughters have made the step from primary to secondary school.

Broughton Hall has been brilliant, the school has shown amazing support for us as carers and the child within our care. They have gone above and beyond. Everything appears to be going as well as it could or better with support put in place to deal with issues like report card earlier in the term. Mrs Reid has been brilliant with all school issues enabling home life to be the best it could. School awards good attendance with incentives like school trips which is brilliant – gives the children something to work towards.

Thank you, we recognise the importance of rewarding excellent attendance and the support of parents and carers in achieving this.

Think that the primary school should advise parents that the summer school is available at an early date as my daughter was unable to attend as we had booked a holiday. Broughton Hall could have placed my daughter in a form with her friends. Feel that the review should have been advised to parents sooner as part of the holiday / inset day information. We were only advised officially by letter one week before the event which has an impact on parents who are working.

In January we are launching a Broughton Hall newsletter which will be delivered to feeder primary schools and go on our website, we intend that this will highlight upcoming events for the term so that parents are fully aware of what will be happening in school.

We place pupils in forms based on information received from our primary colleagues, also it is a great opportunity for pupils to meet new people and make new friends. Pupils are always placed in a form with at least one pupil from their primary school where possible.

I feel my daughter received more homework in primary school and I was expecting more in year 7.

We do have a homework timetable therefore your daughter should be receiving regular homework.
This will become a focus for monitoring.

THANK YOU TO ALL PARENTS WHO RESPONDED, WORKING TOGETHER WE WILL CONTINUE TO
SUPPORT YOUR DAUGHTER IN HER JOURNEY HERE AT BROUGHTON HALL.