



# Brookfield Community School











## Brookfield... The School

Brookfield is an 11-18 comprehensive school with around 1330 students including a Sixth Form of over 350, situated on the western edge of Chesterfield in a pleasant suburb, close to the Peak District National Park.

We have a strong and discernible ethos, that is reflected in our aims. We have the highest expectations of our students in every area of school life. The quest for academic achievement is a very significant part of what we do – with excellent results at GCSE and A level . However, the belief that we are here to develop the whole child is very important to us.

We aim to develop well-rounded men and women who have enjoyed their school life – and have the qualifications and the skills to go on and have success beyond Brookfield. We work hard to ensure that every student is happy, safe and successful.





Brookfield aims to be a school where commitment, participation, involvement and achievement are expected of all.

- A school where Learning and Teaching are at the heart of all we do. Where there is a high level of challenge in classrooms, but where there is still room for laughter and for fun. Where teachers seek to innovate and ideas are welcomed as the natural currency of learning. A school where everyone is passionate about learning.
- A school where there is clarity of purpose. Where students know what their objectives are and all positive pursuits of those objectives are rewarded - high levels of attendance, positive behaviour, effort or attainment.
- A school that knows what each student is capable of and seeks to ensure that every student has the opportunity to enjoy achievement. Where information regarding student progress is shared regularly with learners and with parents. Where students are encouraged to be responsible for their own progress.
- A school that is in the heart of its community and aims to communicate positively and directly with it. A school that recognises that in all policies and procedures, simplicity is a virtue.
- A school that recognises mistakes as part of a learning process - a school where everyone has the desire to succeed but the courage to fail, and praise and encouragement are the natural currency between staff and students, students and their peers and staff and their colleagues.
- A school where students value and support each other, and regularly join together to help others. Where students are encouraged to make a positive contribution to their community.
- A school that is alive with creativity - sport, art, drama, music and song, language, experimentation, understanding, empathy, warmth and fun. A school that promotes the health and well being of all and the development of the whole person.

*"The school provides an outstanding quality of education for its students."*

Ofsted





## Learning

We are a school that cares deeply about learning – about the process of learning and about the subjects that we teach. We see it as part of our duty to pass on that enthusiasm and to create life- long learners - and we try and create learning experiences that are enjoyable and memorable. Our Curriculum is broad and balanced and aims to build on individual student skills and interests.

At GCSE, students have the opportunity to study two languages and three sciences as well as a range of other GCSEs and vocational courses. The Sixth Form provides a wide range of A levels.

school that cares deeply about learning



*“Students are educated in an environment based upon clear values and principles, which influence every aspect of school life, so that students feel valued and respected. The school actively promotes a learning culture that successfully motivates and inspires students and staff. This creates excellent conditions for learning and makes a significant contribution to students’ achievement”*

Ofsted



## Learning Together

We are a community school, something we place great value upon, bringing students together across year groups to work and reflect together. The strength of relationships that exist between students and staff – something that has been particularly noted in both of our last two inspections – helps us maintain our strong school ethos and that sense of community.

We are a comprehensive school and proud to be so. We recognise that success means different things to different students and we look to create opportunities for all of them. We feel that that diversity is part of our strength and ethos. Each year group has a Head of Year and an Assistant Head of Year who work closely with students and parents and deal with individual concerns. The Learning Support team and our Learning Mentors work with students who need additional support.

Brookfield Community School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all members of the community to share this commitment.

*"Students' personal development is supported by excellent care, support and guidance. This is evident in the very positive relationships that are seen in all lessons and in the many informal exchanges between staff and students. Staff demonstrate strongly caring attitudes and students receive excellent personal support and guidance at times of transition."*

Ofsted

*"Students' personal development, including their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, is outstanding because the school's expectations of them are very clear and consistent. Students learn in a supportive and inclusive environment where they feel safe and valued as individuals."*

Ofsted

*"I can remember feeling welcome and that someone was always looking out for me."*

Y7 Transition Survey



## Extending Learning

There are numerous opportunities for students to be involved in learning outside the classroom. They are given every encouragement to fulfil their potential in many different areas including musical, sporting and community work. We firmly believe in the education of the whole person and we seek to develop intellectually curious and socially aware young people.

At Brookfield we constantly encourage involvement and participation in all aspects of school life. There are many opportunities for young people to fully develop their potential through the many extra-curricular activities that take place. Brookfield has an excellent reputation for a wide variety of sporting and cultural activities, which complement academic success.



*"An excellent range of enrichment opportunities, in which high numbers of students participate, complements the curriculum. In addition to residential visits at home and abroad, students of all abilities take advantage of the many clubs and other activities offered. .... large numbers of students participate in a wide range of sporting activities, with many achieving high standards. These activities, together with the high quality musical and drama productions, make an important contribution to students' personal development."*

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## Learning in Partnership

Parents play a vital role in the school, supporting their children in activities and events as well as at Parents' evenings. They receive an annual report but we also monitor progress throughout the year and communicate regularly by text, newsletter and via the school website.

The Brookfield Parents and Friends Association provides extras which would otherwise be beyond our reach. Over the years the association has funded a new minibus, redecoration and a new sound system in the School Hall and improvements to the Library.

There are excellent links with the community, including a wide ranging work experience scheme. Work Experience has also been extended with highly successful programmes abroad in France, Germany and now Spain.

Sixth Form students play a significant part in the wider life of the school. Many work with younger students and in partner primary schools, and are encouraged to participate in community projects.

The strong relationships built up within the school help to provide a safe, happy environment where all students can prosper. Year Councils and a whole School Council give the students a forum to voice opinions and concerns and to share in fund raising both for school and charity.

*"The school works exceptionally well with other schools, agencies and with the community to enrich students' education and ensure their well-being."*

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## Learning Environment

Brookfield is well resourced, with increasingly impressive facilities. A new Sports Hall was opened in 2006, which has created the opportunity for new activities in the PE curriculum, as well as allowing us to develop a full programme of Community activities. In 2010 we also installed a new artificial grass pitch.

Every teaching space has an interactive white board, and the student to computer ratio is now better than the government recommendation.

Each year we try to further improve the learning environment for our students and we have an excellent track record in attracting funding to support these developments.





## Continuing Learning

Brookfield has a large and vibrant Sixth Form of over 350 students, providing a high quality post 16 education for our own students and those from a range of 11-16 schools who apply to join us. The provision includes all those elements that are so much part of life at Brookfield. Examination results are excellent. Students are given greater freedom and responsibility within a caring and supportive environment. Experienced, committed teachers ensure quality lesson delivery and the monitoring of student progress.

Students are given every opportunity to develop as individuals within a strong community. They are listened to and valued as young adults preparing for the next stage in their learning and training. We look to the Sixth Form to be role models and leaders for the student body and take on many significant responsibilities.



*"Students' personal development is excellent because they respond so positively to the many opportunities provided for them to show initiative and take responsibility. They serve as positive role models, display maturity in their behaviour and act very responsibly towards younger members of the school."*

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*"Brookfield has had a huge impact on me, both in terms of my academic qualities and in more general terms. I feel I have grown socially. I have become more independent, more confident and more respectful towards others. It is something I also see in the students around me, also filled with the memories of seven wonderful years. I could not have wished for a better platform to begin my next step in life."*

Y13 Leaver





*"The school provides an outstanding quality of education for its students and gives excellent value for money. Parents strongly agree. One captured the views of many by writing, 'Brookfield is an excellent school, which I am proud to have children attending'."*

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*"I'm really glad I came to Brookfield."*

Y7 Survey





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Brookfield Community School, Chatsworth Road,  
Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S40 3NS

Phone: 01246 568115

Fax: 01246 566827

e-mail: [enquiries@brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Follow us on:  @BCSch

[www.brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk)