

**Our future isn't a place we
get to, it's a place we get to
create - together.**

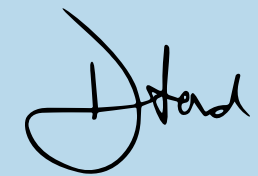
Welcome to the Brooksbank School

The step up to secondary school can be both a daunting prospect and an exhilarating opportunity. It is a place where children grow into young adults, where your experiences and the qualities you develop will shape your future. Ultimately the decisions that you and your family make will come down to a gut instinct, a feeling you get when you come and visit this wonderful school.

The growth and evolution of a school is just like that of a child. Full of joys and adventures, lessons to learn and challenges to overcome. We have assembled an exceptional group of leaders and teachers who are dedicated to developing every child at the Brooksbank School. As part of the collaborative Together Learning Trust, our school is beginning a new chapter, and we are privileged to be trusted by you to provide phenomenal educational experiences for these fine young people.

Brooksbank is a school that is absolutely committed to exceptional academic achievement: this year's exam results rank amongst the very top of non-selective schools in Calderdale. And we are also a school which understands that true accomplishment lies beyond this success, and that dedication to the arts, sport, media and community will shape our students to become our future leaders.

We work in partnership with our families, and we genuinely look forward to welcoming you into the school at any time to feel the vibrant, creative, collaborative, safe and positive atmosphere that will allow every child to aspire and achieve great things.



DAVID LORD, HEADTEACHER

“Brooksbank taught me to be daring.

Through the most pivotal moments in my life so far, it is the one place that made me believe I can achieve something great, something memorable. It has provided me with not only dreams, but a whole-hearted belief within myself that I am so capable of doing something great with my life. I am so proud to be part of Brooksbank’s team.”

MARTHA WRIGHT, YEAR 13, HEAD GIRL



“Brooksbank has given me knowledge and confidence.

Since Year 7 the school has helped me achieve my goals and grow more as a person. Brooksbank not only supported me and my friends in our education but has provided a caring environment in which we could develop other important skills.”

TOM EASTWOOD, YEAR 13, HEAD BOY



**Proud of our students.
Proud of our school.**



When schools collaborate,
incredible things happen.

In Autumn 2022, the Brooksbank School joins Together Learning Trust, a highly respected local multi academy trust. We are a close family of local schools, including Honley and Ryburn Valley High School, Ryburn Sixth and three primary schools. Being part of a supportive trust brings many benefits to the school, staff and students.

Working in collaboration supports our schools to be better. Through the professional development of leaders and staff, effective curriculum development, robust quality assurance, mutual support and great governance, by working together we demonstrate meaningful and sustainable improvements in our schools. Our aim is to become the best at getting better.

We strive to deliver extraordinary education - for every child, every day.

WHO ARE TOGETHER LEARNING TRUST?

- A small but ambitious trust with a culture of collaboration and support between schools.
- Primary, secondary and sixth form specialists in Calderdale and Kirklees.
- Expertise in leadership and curriculum development, operations and communications.
- We think creatively, strive for excellence and want joy to be the heart of what we do in schools.

WWW.TOGETHERLEARNINGTRUST.CO.UK



The Brooksbank School has a proud history at the heart of the Elland community.

Founded in 1712 by our generous namesake for the education of poor children in Elland, we grew bigger and better, moving to our current site in 1911. Our school became a grammar school, a specialist sports college, and eventually today's thriving comprehensive of over 1700 students. We continue to evolve and adapt to serve our community and their future. Many of our students' parents and grandparents attended, along with many members of our staff, a testament to the pride, continuity and connection our school inspires.

Our community is global as well as local, and we aim to imbue in our students a sense of understanding and responsibility for others which knows no boundaries. We are equally welcoming of all members of our community, whatever your background. Our student body is international. Our diversity is our strength.

From little acorns, grow mighty oaks

Our new school crest takes the motif of acorns from the traditional badge of our grammar school days and updates it for the modern age and the next chapter in the life of The Brooksbank School. It has been created by an illustrator who is a proud alumnus of the school, and our artist in residence. You will see the new logo roll out across our school materials this year, including on our uniforms from September 2023.



Serving the community of
Elland for over 300 years.



A young woman with long blonde hair, wearing a school uniform consisting of a white shirt, a dark tie, and a dark V-neck sweater. She has her hands raised in front of her, palms facing forward, with fingers spread. She has a surprised or excited expression on her face. The background is dark blue.

A school of character.

We believe there is a strong link between character and attainment.

At the Brooksbank School, our definition of success isn't limited solely to exam outcomes and attendance figures, important though those are. We help students develop desirable qualities - such as self esteem, resilience and cooperation - that will help them flourish as individuals and within society. Through our rich and varied PSHCE curriculum, drop down days, extra curricular activities and student leadership, there are countless opportunities for students to develop as well-rounded individuals.

Our school culture is about an attitude. Our students are polite, positive and ready to work as part of 'team Brooksbank' - no excuses. When the attitude is right, behaviour follows. A consistent system which recognises good behaviour backs this up, and our caring pastoral and SEND teams help those students who need extra support, so that every student has the best chance of success.

Our aim is for our students to leave The Brooksbank School as confident young adults, responsible for themselves, each other and their world.

“I recently competed in a year group Public Speaking Competition. It was a fantastic experience! My Drama teacher brought out the best in me and I was delighted to win the competition!”

KATIE HESLOP, YEAR 10

Sports success is in our DNA at The Brooksbank School.

Our professional-standard facilities include enviable team sports, cycling and PE facilities and an all-weather 3G sports field. Our students compete in regional and national tournaments and have the trophies to show for it; many have gone on to professional sports careers.

The value of sports is not for the glory but for the qualities it instils. We encourage students to take on new challenges, collaborate with others and experience competition, struggle and success, building the confidence to tackle whatever challenges life brings. The ethos continues off the field, so whatever your skills or interests, we're glad you're on our team.

“You can rely on Brooksbank to bring out the best in you! Whether it's acting on stage, entering a writing competition or playing your favourite sport. I love PE and the coaching I received was outstanding.”

MADDISON SMITH, YEAR 9

A black and white photograph of a group of students participating in a tug-of-war competition. The students are lined up in a row, pulling on a thick rope. They are wearing athletic clothing, including t-shirts and shorts. The background shows a grassy field with trees and other people in the distance. The text "A dream team, 2000 strong." is overlaid on the right side of the image.

A dream team,
2000 strong.



Ignite your passion.

Let us unlock your creativity

with our fantastic teaching and facilities in art, drama and music. Creative subjects give students a unique opportunity to develop soft skills such as problem solving, communication and emotional intelligence, and open up future opportunities in a growing creative jobs market. They allow you to express your ideas and are great for mental health. Our light-filled and well-equipped Arthaus space hosts exhibitions from our talented young artists and photographers, and we host numerous events and performances that allow our students to shine.

Our aim is to open students' eyes to a wide array of experiences, role models and opportunities, enabling you to find your individual passions and to flourish.

“ I love playing music and Brooksbank Music lessons are my favourite time of the week. The teachers are really friendly and encourage you to play your best. **”**

EMRYS OSBORN, YEAR 8

Could you be a young leader?

As the Brooksbank School begins a new chapter of its journey with the Together Learning Trust, we invite you to help ensure that student voices play a key role in creating a school you can be proud of. A school that looks to the future and meets the needs of a new generation.

Student leadership is a core focus across the trust and we are building and training a team of dynamic, confident and supportive Brooksbank ambassadors who will contribute to the school as well as developing a fantastic set of skills for themselves. Student leaders have opportunities to collaborate between our schools, to share ideas, learn and grow together. You'll meet some of these great role models if you visit our school, and they'll play a big role in helping new students settle into Year 7.

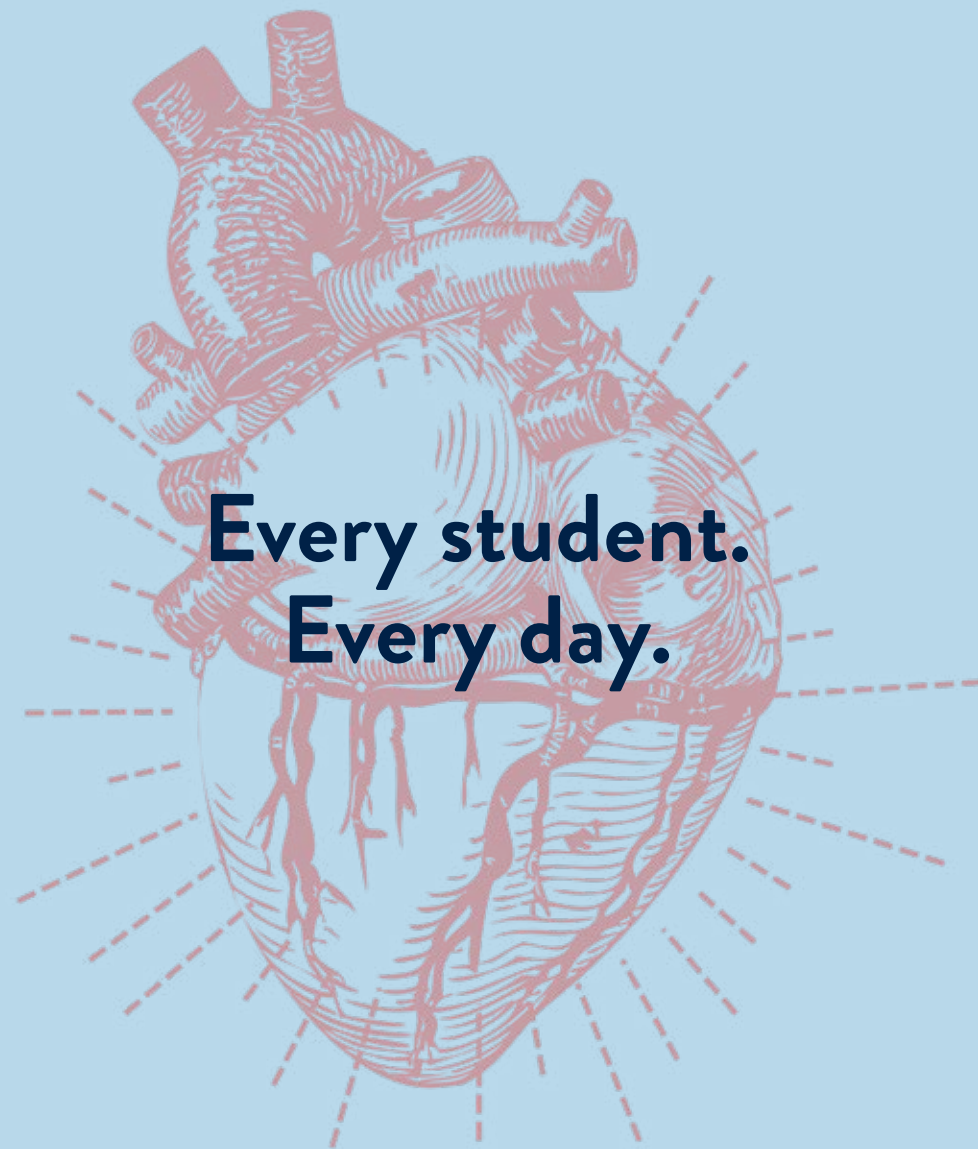
It's a really exciting time to join us and we hope you are as eager as we are about working together to create something big.

“I wanted to introduce the idea of Uniform Exchange to Brooksbank so that people can donate and recycle unwanted school uniform. My request was heard and acted on immediately. The staff go out of their way to listen to you.”

MADDISON SMITH, YEAR 10

A young boy with glasses is speaking into a microphone on a stage. He is wearing a dark sweater over a collared shirt and tie. In the background, two adults, a woman and a man, are seated and listening. The scene is dimly lit, with a spotlight on the boy.

Be part of the change.



**Every student.
Every day.**

There are no barriers to what you can achieve.

Most students at Brooksbank make expected or above average progress for their age. Some need extra support at times in order to fulfill their potential. This could be due to difficulties with communication and interaction; cognition and learning; social, emotional and mental health; disabilities; or simply going through a tough situation. In all these cases, we support students' wellbeing, helping them enjoy learning and meet their goals.

We are a fully inclusive school and constantly working and adapting to meet the needs of all our students. The SEN department is housed in a vibrant area, supporting the full range of special educational needs through our fully qualified, caring team.

Our well-staffed Pastoral team support students in all years, providing reassurance and support for students and their families. Some students who struggle with the full mainstream curriculum for whatever reason seek support from The Bridge, The Personalised Learning Centre or The Link.

We care deeply about every single one of our students and want all of them to leave us with a sense of pride and a depth of resilience in order to be successful. Please speak to our team if you have any questions about the individual support we can offer.

“There’s always someone to turn to at Brooksbank. Mental health and wellbeing is a top priority. Being able to talk to your Form Tutor and friends is a great way to work things through.”

VERITY SYKES, YEAR 10

Life at Brooksbank is rich with opportunities,

both within and outside the classroom. Our students will tell you that some of their most memorable experiences happen on trips or at out of school clubs.

Do you fancy testing your legs on a Duke of Edinburgh expedition, flexing your language skills on our French Exchange or skiing in Andorra? Perhaps you'd like to try Science, Music, Chess or Creative Writing clubs? We strongly encourage all of our students to have a go at something new. It's a fantastic way to make friends with shared interests, to build confidence and to learn new skills. Most of our clubs are free of charge, and some trips are subsidised for students eligible for Pupil Premium.

“ I recently went on a Geography fieldwork trip. We carried out investigation work in a local river. It was great to step out of the classroom and learn in a natural environment. Teachers go out of their way to provide fantastic learning opportunities at Brooksbank.”

LUCAS SANDERSON, YEAR 11

A group of approximately ten students, mostly young women, are posing for a photo outdoors. They are all wearing yellow helmets and dark life jackets with the brand name 'PEAK' visible. They are standing in a line, some with their arms around each other, smiling at the camera. The background shows a grassy area with trees and a wooden fence. The entire image has a warm, orange-toned filter.

Countless opportunities
to shine.



Your future is bright.

Schools' responsibility does not end when you pick up your exam results and walk out the door. Our aim is for you to leave school with both the strong results *and* the wider experiences and skills you need to succeed whatever you want to do in the future. It's likely that in your lifetime you will work within multiple careers, and do jobs that perhaps don't even exist today.

Our community benefits from an excellent in house sixth form offering a wide range of A-levels and vocational subjects. At a time when most local school-based sixth forms have closed, this offers a valuable choice of a small and nurturing progression route at 16, and an alternative to large colleges. A majority of our students choose to stay on, as well as attracting students from across Calderdale, and they achieve fantastic results. In 2022 over 27% of academic entries attained A*-A grades, while 70.7% of all entries were graded A*-C. Older students also act as mentors to younger ones, offering fantastic support and encouragement.

Working with experts from C&K Careers, we provide students with careers guidance which is "useful and extensive" and students "are well-informed about their future options" [Ofsted]. Students have a wide choice of paths open to them after school, and go on to top universities including places at Oxford, Cambridge and Manchester, as well as apprenticeships and employment.

By approaching school with a positive attitude and embracing the many opportunities on offer, you'll develop the skills and the guts to get out there and create a bright future for yourself.

BROOKSBANK
SIXTH FORM
Supporting you to succeed

Your journey starts here.

We hope that this prospectus has given you a good sense of the strengths and heritage of the Brooksbank School and a sense of excitement about the journey to come. We would love you to be a part of it.

If you'd like to find out more please visit our website where you will find up to date information on our admissions policy, uniform, curriculum and much more.

See our school for yourself at our Open Evening, or contact us to arrange to see it in action on a daytime tour. You can also follow our news and updates on social media and through our weekly newsletter 'Beyond the Blue Line'.

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss your particular requirements in choosing a school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are made via Calderdale Council through their website. The deadline is **31 October**.

The Brooksbank School accepts up to 10% of our student intake based on sporting aptitude. If you wish to apply under this criterion, please contact us for an application form by the start of October, in addition to applying via Calderdale Council. More information is available on our website or at our open evening.

The Brooksbank School

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www.bbs.calderdale.sch.uk

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The Brooksbank School is proud to be a member of Together Learning Trust. Registered address Ryburn Valley High School, St Peters Avenue, Sowerby, Sowerby Bridge, HX6 1DG. A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (company number 9040380)



**THE
BROOKSBANK
SCHOOL**

Together
Learning Trust