

Brookfield Community School

A Specialist Sports College

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Acting Headteacher: Mr R Cronin



RMC/YM

20th December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

December 2018 Update

As the term draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to provide parents and carers with an update and also thank you for your ongoing support. Since September there have been many changes at Brookfield Community School; some addressing the areas for improvement raised by Ofsted and others designed to help improve the school, ensuring all students maximise their potential.

Whilst improving academic achievements remains a priority at Brookfield Community School, the school continues to promote the importance of an outstanding holistic education; I hope the 2018 Christmas Newsletter provides parents and carers with a summary of the holistic educational experiences offered to our wonderful students.

Redhill Multi-Academy Trust Update

The Regional Schools Commissioner recently announced that Brookfield Community School will be joining Redhill Academy Trust. On Monday 3rd December Mr Burns (CEO) held a parents' evening where he shared the Redhill's vision. Central to the Trust's vision is academic achievement and high expectations of all. During his presentation, Mr Burns introduced Mr Croft, Executive Headteacher for their Derbyshire Hub; Mr Croft will start working with Brookfield Community School from January 2019.

National Leader of Education

Since July, the school has been working closely with Miss Roche, National Leader of Education and Outstanding Headteacher. Her role was designed to increase the capacity of strategic leadership at Brookfield Community School, whilst the school awaited the Regional Schools Commissioner's decision regarding academy re-brokerage. From January 2019, Miss Roche will cease working with Brookfield Community School as Mr Croft, Executive Headteacher, will begin providing additional strategic capacity to Brookfield's Senior Leadership Team. I would like to take this opportunity to officially thank Miss Roche for her contributions to Brookfield's school improvement journey since July 2018.

Attendance Update (December 2018)

Poor attendance and punctuality have a detrimental impact on student progress. Brookfield's whole school attendance is currently 95%. Whilst this is above the national average, it is below the school's 2018/19 target of 96%. Special recognition is deserved for students in Year 7 and in Year 12, where attendance is currently 97.1% and 97.4% respectively.

I am pleased to inform parents that punctuality has improved since September with the introduction of new systems, including a two minute warning bell at the end of break time and lunch time and the removal of the previous no bags at lunchtime rule.

Please could I ask that parents/carers continue supporting the school by ensuring your child attends school regularly and on time; whilst attendance is currently good at Brookfield, my aim is for it to be outstanding.



Adverse Weather

If we experience adverse weather, whenever safe and operationally possible to do so, the school will remain open. However, on occasions when students and/or staff are not able to travel to and from school safely, or the site is not safe, school will close. Short term weather forecasts, in addition to the condition of local roads and footpaths around the school site are assessed when making the decision.

If the school is to be closed, whenever possible, a decision will be made by 7.00 am. This will be communicated through:

- A message on the front page of the school website
- A text message on the parent app or via SMS
- A message on the school Facebook and Twitter (@BCSch)
- Announcements on Peak FM and Radio Sheffield

Please do not ring school to enquire about the situation - we will be open unless Twitter, the website, text, e-mail or Radio stations say otherwise. The first indication will be via the school Twitter account. In the event of an early closure, we will use the same means to communicate with parents and carers.

Parents' Forum and Communication

In an attempt to improve communication between the school and parents/carers, the school ran its first Parents' Forum on 17th December 2018. This meeting was very productive and provided a forum where concerns, celebrations and suggestions for school improvement could be raised and discussed in a professional and respectful environment. Some common themes included:

- A need to improve communication with parents.
- Concerns over the consistency of homework.
- A need to improve the facilities within the school.
- Concerns over the consistency of the quality of teaching and learning.

The next Parents' Forum is scheduled for Monday 8th April 2019. It will be held in Room A1 between 6.00pm and 7.00pm. Please notify my PA, Mrs Rhodes, if you are planning to attend. If you have any agenda items, please send them to her by 29th March 2019 at g.rhodes@brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

Post Ofsted Action Plan Executive Summary

At the Parents' Forum, I shared a Post Ofsted Action Plan Executive Summary and a letter recently received from Miss Roche, National Leader of Education. During the meeting, parents suggested that both documents should be published on school's website as they provide parents with a summary of recent school improvement actions.

To this end, the Post Ofsted Action Plan can be found here:

<http://www.brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1457&type=pdf>.

The letter from Miss Roche can be found here:

<http://www.brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1456&type=pdf>. Alternatively, please visit the school's website and look in the Ofsted section.



School Website and Social Media

I would like to encourage all parents and carers to familiarise themselves with the school's website as it provides information about all aspects of school life. Alongside our website, we also use the following social media platforms:

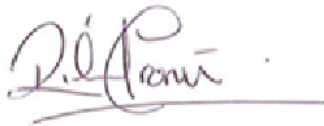
- Twitter account: @BCSch.
- Brookfield's Facebook page.

Uniform Update

At Brookfield Community School, we are very clear regarding our expectations of students, including our high standards on school uniform. Please could I ask parents to remind their children that skirts should be of a suitable length (for a business environment) and shirts should be fully tucked in? Thank you in advance for your support on this matter.

Finally, on behalf of the staff, students and governors at Brookfield Community School, I would like to wish you a safe and enjoyable festive holiday and a happy New Year.

Yours sincerely



Mr Richard M Cronin
Acting Headteacher

