



# BROUGHTON HALL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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**Head Teacher: Mr G M Preston B.A. (Hons), NPQH, PGCE**

4<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a very positive start to the year. So many of the pupils have reflected the famous quote:

“You don’t have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great!”

Our pupils in Year 7 have settled in well, finding their way around and meeting their new teachers. Year 11 and Year 13 pupils have started the countdown to examinations with a positive attitude, as they enter the final 9 months of their journey towards the next step in their young futures. Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 have retuned and similarly made positive strides to succeed and embrace the challenging curriculum that our staff set for them.

We were delighted to see our first trips leave the site this year as we try to get back to a wider extra curricula offer than we have been able to offer during the last few years. A number of pupils ventured out last week on their Duke of Edinburgh expedition, braving the driving rain whilst navigating the countryside. It was fantastic to see them leave and enjoy a wonderful few days of new experiences alongside the staff.

Homework Club has restarted on a Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday for all pupils to attend. This supports pupils and parents in the completion of homework and coursework. We provide IT facilities as well as the opportunity to print out any materials the pupils need. The added attraction of biscuits also seems to be a positive with many of the pupils that choose to attend. Maths Clinic has also started this year to support pupils in the completion of their ‘Sparks’ homework which has to be completed online. IPADS are available at the Maths Clinic so pupils can stay behind for 20 or 30 minutes to ensure they stay on top of their maths homework. Maths teachers have also kindly offered to stay behind for Maths Clinic and support pupils.

We had a number of staffing changes last year with retirements, career changes, moves to other parts of the country and the wider world and promotions all playing a part in the changes. It is pleasing to tell you that we have replaced all of the staff who moved on with excellent new staff. All positions have been filled with qualified staff with expertise in the subject area. We are delighted to welcome all of the new staff Ms Thompson, Mr Davis, Mr Roberts, Ms Cummings, Ms Anderson, Ms Roberts, Ms McLaughin and Ms Gray to Broughton Hall. They like our new pupils have settled in well.

Our Ready to Learn processes have worked well this year and reduced the number of negative discussions around uniform, mobile phones and jewellery during the school day when we wish to focus on teaching and learning. The new mobile phone procedures are similarly working well with pupils respecting the principle of ‘See it or Hear it’ then hand it in, being adhered to by the pupils.

Broughton Hall High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people; we expect all pupils, staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.



Our curriculum design has been through significant change over the last 18 months with Ms Bennett, our newly promoted Assistant Headteacher, being responsible for the development of curriculum working hard with our Heads of Department to embed the changes needed. We continue to develop our curriculum but this year the focus changes to assessment and how assessment helps us to understand what your daughter understands well and what she does not understand fully.

Before I finish, it would be remiss of me not to mention attendance. Attendance is a key factor in your daughter’s education. Research shows that on average a pupil who has attendance lower than 90% achieves a GCSE grade less, in all subjects, than those pupils with attendance above 95%. We know that being in school makes a significant difference to your daughter’s future and the learning she can complete. If she is absent it is a missed opportunity to learn. Attendance in school matters!

The figures below remind us of how the occasional absence quickly adds up to make a huge difference to your daughter and how many lessons they will miss.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



**Gerard Preston**  
**Headteacher**



## Getting to school really matters. Did you know...

If your attendance during the school year...	You would have lost approximately...	or you would have missed approximately...
<b>was 95%</b>	<b>9 Days from School</b>	<b>45 Lessons</b>
<b>was 90%</b>	<b>19 Days from School</b>	<b>95 Lessons</b>
<b>was 85%</b>	<b>29 Days from School</b>	<b>145 Lessons</b>
<b>was 80%</b>	<b>38 Days from School</b>	<b>190 Lessons</b>
<b>was 75%</b>	<b>48 Days from School</b>	<b>240 Lessons</b>

**You should not take holidays during term time.  
 Please be punctual to maintain attendance.  
 Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity**