



Helsby High School

Open Evening - Evaluation



Statement	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Comments
<p>My child and I were made to feel welcome by pupils and members of staff; we found everyone approachable and helpful</p>	<p>104</p>	<p>13</p>			<p>Pupils especially helpful</p> <p>The staff were very helpful, friendly and approachable.</p> <p>Very helpful and polite.</p> <p>Very helpful 6th form student – A Sixth Form Prefect volunteered to show us around. Excellent role model.</p> <p>Some less busy places. I would say some staff not as approachable.</p> <p>I would have found an introductory address by the head helpful</p> <p>All staff and especially pupils were very approachable and friendly.</p> <p>2 year 10 girls showed us around and we found it very useful – it also gave us the opportunity to ask additional questions.</p> <p>Especially the English Dept & PE. The PE teachers allowed my daughter to even have a shoot.</p> <p>Very welcoming at entrance, nice to meet the Headteacher personally.</p>

					<p>The student that showed us around was really helpful and informative.</p> <p>The pupils were very helpful.</p> <p>Everyone we met was very friendly.</p> <p>All pupils were really helpful and staff happy to chat.</p>
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<p>We found the activities in the subject areas interesting and informative; we were able to question members of staff and pupils</p>	<p>96</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Very haphazard – no structure</p> <p>Excellent opportunities for any child to interact with teachers and activities were engaging.</p> <p>Excellent and enjoyable.</p> <p>Science area was fantastic.</p> <p>Chemistry – Fire! Geography</p> <p>D&T explanations and work were very inspirational. Loved the Science “digestion” exhibition!</p> <p>Staff were difficult to engage because they were involved in the activities. Few pupils were active in the room demonstrating.</p> <p>Sciences particularly good</p> <p>Especially in Science and PE</p> <p>Great experiences and very informative.</p> <p>Science department staff were very enthusiastic, great to see!</p> <p>Some areas / subjects more than others. Art, Science, History and Geography and Literature all very good.</p>
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<p>Any queries or concerns we had about the school in general were answered in a straightforward and clear manner</p>	<p>96</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Rather “skated” over</p> <p>No issues</p> <p>Excellent and enjoyable</p> <p>Haven’t asked as yet, will look at booklet.</p> <p>Didn’t have any.</p> <p>The feel of the school was everything! A very warm welcome.</p> <p>Explained about taster days when in History.</p> <p>Not all departments covered.</p> <p>Helped with questions about school buses.</p>
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<p>We left at the end of the evening having had a positive, enjoyable experience which will help us to decide on the future education of our child</p>	<p>100</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Not impressed (as an ex-headteacher)</p> <p>Yes enjoyable. Routes marked were a bit confusing – you need the map.</p> <p>Staff in the Science department were by far the most informative and interested in their subject.</p> <p>Excellent and enjoyable.</p> <p>Very tiring!</p> <p>My daughter is keen to take part in the schools sport activities and the PE demonstrated strength here.</p> <p>Thank you – see you next year!</p> <p>Enjoyed the French Café, Biology – digestive system – excellent interaction. Art – awe inspiring – superb.</p> <p>The children really enjoyed themselves and feel excited to come here.</p>
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Other comments:

The absence of students work in the rooms was apparent. How else can parents evaluate standards of work? Displays were poor and not giving children a reason to be proud of achievements. A drab building which could be much improved by good display. Children need stimulation and this school does not inspire.

We think that you missed a huge opportunity in that the Head did not make a presentation. All other schools we had been to had an optional head's talk perhaps 2 or 3 times. This really helped with information about schools strengths, latest exam results and how they compare with others in the area (without mentioning names), future approach and current approach to learning and development of pupils, school curriculum, engagement with parents, also how to apply and get a place. In other words, selling the school. This is all about leadership. If the head does not show his face, i.e. so that people recognise him, and does not stand up for the school, the question might arise in some about leadership in other areas. We had already had a 1:1 talk with the head and tour with head girl & boy. After that we felt very positive about the school. However, now I have a number of questions in my mind and I am no longer certain about Helsby as a choice for my child. It also gives the impression that the school is a bit complacent about whether parents will apply to you in any case. Can I suggest that you could rectify this to some extent by sending out a flyer to parents of all schools in the catchment with e.g. 5 key reasons to choose Helsby; what is different about Helsby; key strengths/exam results – why they weren't as good this year and why they will improve; aims for the future; contact details. This would go a long way to providing information in a way that parents can use to understand Helsby and make a decision. Otherwise people may choose another further away local school which would not benefit the local community or the school.

Thank you to staff and pupils for their time and effort for making this an enjoyable / informative experience.

Excellent evening thank you very much.

Not enough time. We only managed 7 rooms. Chemistry, Biology & Physics taking the longest, but Wes thought it was great, but would have liked to see everything.

Would have been beneficial to have short talk at beginning / end of evening to introduce the school.

Didn't have time to see everything.

There should have been a welcoming talk by Head – don't even know what he looks like!

All a bit overwhelming to be honest!

Impressive! Can I come?

Physics and food tech 10/10.

Nice to see people we recognise. Thank you very much.

An enjoyable, informative evening, which has given our son the opportunities available to him.

Very welcoming but thought lots of the computers in the room were very old.

Everything was amazing.

Headmaster presentation with info re: school, ethos, results, future plans etc would have been appreciated. Would be useful for you to consider a marketing tool in future. Many thanks for all staff's time and effort. It was also good to speak to pupils and see how enthusiastic they were about their work.

Students showing us around were fantastic, thanks. Lots of lovely activities.

My son found all the teachers very friendly.

A very positive evening, thanks to all the staff.

There was no overall information presentation about the objectives, structure and activities (in class and extra) that the school offered.

A formal presentation would have been beneficial. Staff and particularly some of the younger pupils were very helpful and friendly. All good!

Very, very, very, very good.

Great time in the Science labs. Thank you.

An opening address or some comments by the Headteacher about the ethos of the school would have been helpful. He wasn't very visible.

Didn't get around all the school – impressed with resources / teaching methods.

Lovely school, my daughter really enjoyed herself.

Very positive experience!

Found the evening really enjoyable and informative. Katie not worrying as much after this.

A very stimulating evening. Tom is really looking forward to coming here. Thanks to all the staff for all your hard work putting this event together.

Thanks for making our daughter feel so welcome.

Arrows for directions helped. Students very helpful and staff.

I had a few concerns prior to our visit. These were very much diluted when entering the school and seeing the facilities.

Needs a formal introduction from headteacher and staff to parents.

The experience was informative and we give the Pizza 10/10.

Particularly enjoyed the Science and French classrooms!

Lily who is coming next year said: AMAZING! Lily is lost! James who is coming in 2013 said: Science looks interesting, very scary big school!

Everyone was very helpful and informative. Very impressed.

Liked the art facilities and staff.

Very enjoyable and well-organised.

I was very impressed with the visit. We were made to feel very welcome. I think my daughter will be very happy here – if she gets a place.

Fantastic

Sports staff disinterested - no approach or offer of information – disappointing.

I got the chance to look around my old school and see my teachers, I have great faith that my own children will enjoy it as much as I did.

Had a very enjoyable experience – many thanks.

Very impressed overall although school huge!

It was great to see some of the teachers still here from when I was here and I left 1993.