

OCs' Tour of Brookfield Community School – April 2016

Prior to the annual Old Cestrefeldians' Reunion Dinner, a group of OCs visited the "new" old school at Brookside, now the Brookfield Community School.

Brookfield Community School has been an academy, independent of any group, since 2011 and now has around 1350 pupils and has had as many as 400 in the sixth form.

Organised by Tony Hine, the group was received and shown around the premises by Headteacher, Steve Edmonds and Assistant Headteacher, Denise Howard.



The Main Building familiar to those at school from 1967 onwards



The more recent Reception block



Part of the library



The group in the Reception area

Chesterfield School completed the move from Sheffield Road to Brookside in September 1967 following the science sixth forms who had moved in 1961. Older OCs will no doubt have fond memories of Wednesday afternoons spent there on the "Storrs Road" sports fields. Old boys representing each of these periods were included in the group.



The main hall ready to receive exam candidates

The younger OCs were surprised to see how little much of the main block of the school had changed although there were many newer extensions. The Science Block was fundamentally the same although again extended but with labs replacing the original classrooms and cookers now in evidence.



The fume cupboard, renewed, but in the same corner of the chemistry lab as in 1961



Once a physics lab but no longer as we knew it

Unlike at many schools, the extensive playing fields have not been sacrificed to housing development but the track has been replaced by all-weather sports pitches and the wooden shed changing rooms by a large sports hall.



Members of the group were very grateful to Steve and Denise for the time they had devoted to them and we very pleased to see that the school seemed to be in very good heart. Frank Gorman delivered the vote of thanks.