



Children and Young People's Services

Children and Young People's View of Primary Education

Introduction

This appendix sets out the responses made by young people from Year 7 in Lakelands, Priory and Oldbury Wells schools to an exercise asking them to categorise what they saw as the most important features of a successful primary school. Year 7 students were chosen because they had the most recent memories of primary education, but were gathered in a group from a number of different schools and so were less likely to concentrate on the features of just one school. Inevitably, even this early in their secondary careers their responses were to some extent coloured by their experience of secondary school. Responses which only apply to secondary have been deleted from this version.

What makes a school?

We then asked them to think about what you need to make a school and then more importantly what makes a school great.

They were then asked to categorise them into the following:

- Quite Important
- Important
- Most Important

Their results are presented overleaf.

Quite Important

Priory	Lakelands	Oldbury Wells
Friends	After school clubs	Lockers
Charity days	Sports fields/courts	Library
Religion	Homework clubs	Computers
Playground	Separate staff and student toilets	Productions
Learning Support	Fairness	Places to eat
More resources	Library Books	Playground
Tables and Chairs	Raising money for charity	Offices
People who care for you	Reliable Transport	Gym
Stationary	Good manners	Team Work
Dinner hall	Getting good awards and grades	Classrooms
PE hall	Nice environment	Dinner Ladies
School Council	Clean facilities	Uniforms
Books	Environmentally friendly	School trips
Bike Sheds	Colourful classrooms	Toilets
P.T.A	Healthy food	Scores and grades
Computers	P.E	computers
Classrooms	Encouragement for pupils	Students
Uniforms	Good dinners	Stationary
Year Groups	Teaching Assistants	Peer groups
Assemblies	Lifts that work	Friends
	Hi-tech Computers	

Important

Priory	Lakelands	Oldbury Wells
Tidy School	Staff meetings	School Council
Nice Students	First aiders	Playground
Careers Advice	Staff room	PTA
P.E	Dinner ladies	People from a variety of ethnic groups/ backgrounds
Break Times	Assemblies	Subjects
Charity Days	School Council	Support teachers
Food	Friendship	Supply teachers
Clean Toilets	Big corridors	Assemblies
Good Relationships	Prefects	Learning supplies
Governors	R.E	Stationary
School Council	Discussions	Toilets
	Equipment that works	Equipment
	Reception	Tables
	Respect	Chairs
	CCTV	
	Modern technology	

Most Important

Priory	Lakelands	Oldbury Wells
ADHD support	Letting young people have their say	Anti - Bullying
Anti – Discriminatory system	Assistants	School council
Plenty of different subjects	Recycling	Builders make the school
Boys to wear shorts	Plenty of room	School trips
Fun, kind and well trained teachers	Praise	Team work
Homework	Friendly teachers who are good at what they do	Toilets
Awards	Fire exits	Fun
Computers	Open speech	Furniture
Business and Enterprise	Safe buses	Friends / Friendship
Cooks	Headteacher	Curriculum
Playing Fields	P.T.A	Sports
Happy Students	The building	Children
Girls football		Rooms
A nice building		Rules
A good education system		Halls
		Teachers

Top 3

The groups were then asked to vote on their top 3 priorities. These are what they thought were the most important things that make up a school:

Priory:

- Fun
- Friends
- Lessons

Lakelands:

- Pupils
- Education
- Teachers

Oldbury Wells:

- Fun
- Anti-Bullying
- Teacher

It is clear that the key priorities for young people are to have well qualified and supported staff presenting high quality lessons to empowered pupils. Other points made in this consultation will be incorporated into Shropshire County Council's response to the Primary Capital Programme.