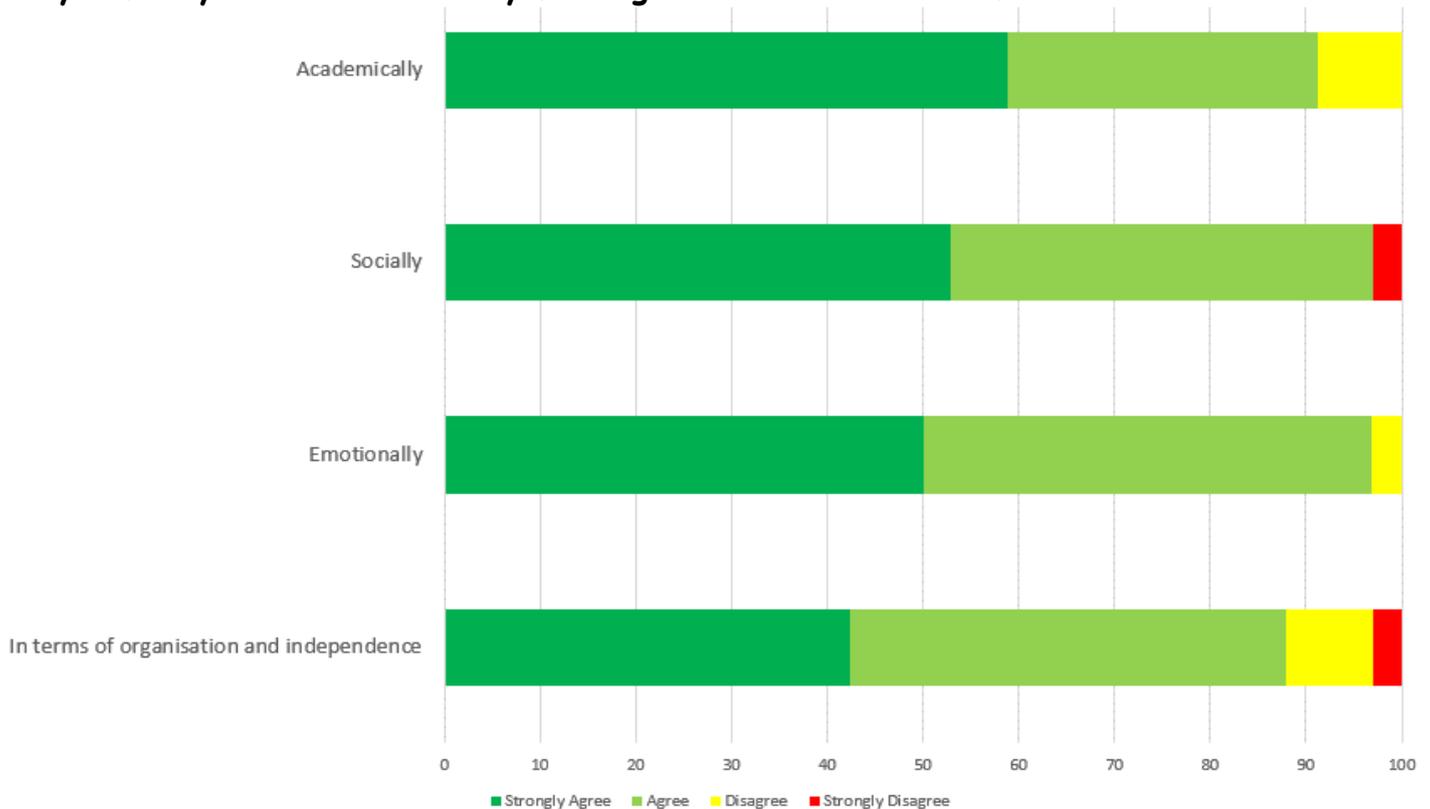


Thomas Russell Junior School

Y6-7 Transition Questionnaire Feedback From July 2017 leavers (34 responses from 64 pupils)

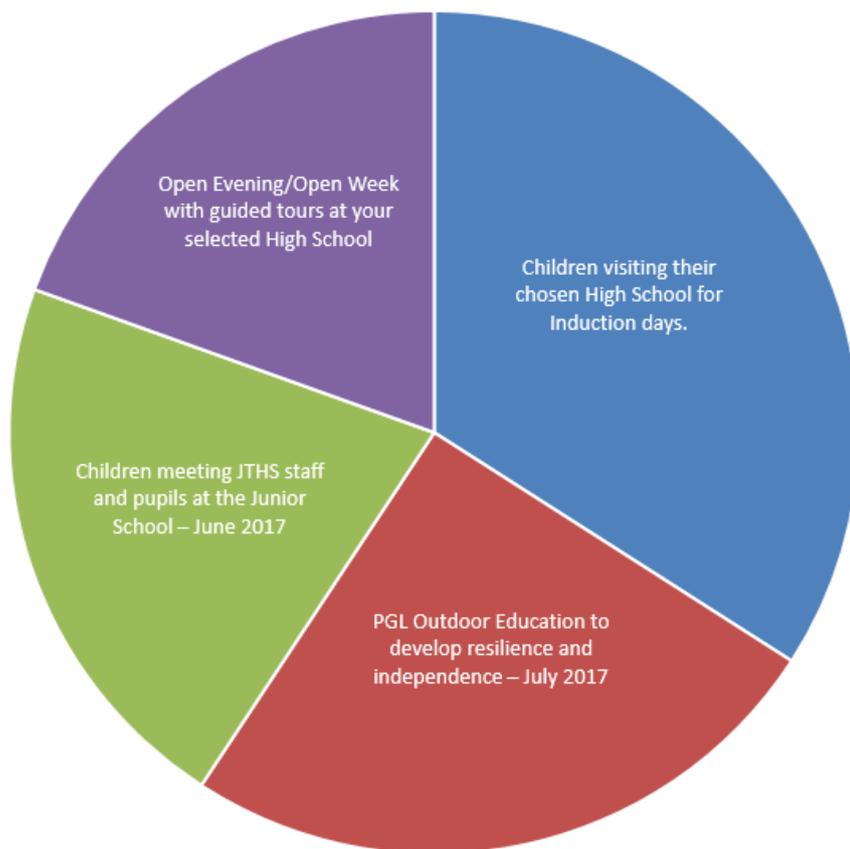
Thank you very much for the responses we received regarding our transition process. Please find below analysis of feedback and parental comments, along with some responses from school. All comments have been anonymised. Any feedback relating specifically to provision at any other school has been passed directly to them for consideration and names of any other schools excised. Thank you. Mrs Sharpe

Do you feel your child was ready for High School at the end of Year 6?



- He's one of the youngest, it was never going to be easy.
- Y6 was amazing for my son. Red caps, Sports Leaders and tech team in particular gave him much more confidence.
- Going to High School really is a huge step, particularly in terms of the amount of homework and independence and organisation. The more you can enforce that in Y6, the better, perhaps more homework through the week rather than just at weekends.
- (Emotionally) It was probably me more than my son, but Junior School is a lovely bubble to be in at Y6, so a big step to High School.
- My daughter felt very ready - she was very excited about starting at High School, so I can only think that the transition days were good and juniors prepared her.
- Excellent transition program, my son stated how much he felt at home at High School after the 3 day induction.
- My son was "as ready as he could have been". Until it actually happened it was a bit unreal but he rose to the challenge and has blossomed. I am amazed by how organised he is now!
- I wasn't sure (we) he was ready until he got there! He has proved to be organised and willing to give everything a go.
- Now my daughter's organisation and independence skills have improved.

Top 4 activities which helped to support your High School choice and child's transition.



- Very pleased with the whole process of transitioning to High School - thank you!
- While all things done were great, nothing would have changed my choice of High School.
- I doubt that any preparation in terms of organisation and independence could be enough for what is expected from the children when they go to High School.
- We could've gone to the first two events but didn't know about them. Probably our fault.
- Because of the above (activities) my son has had a very positive start to secondary school.
- For confidence, the PGL days.
- I agree all of the above helped with my daughter's transition but there was never any doubt which school she would attend.

- Sorry - I don't know anything about the Maths Transition
- A fantastic range of activities put students' minds at rest and meant they were excited at the prospect of the new school.

Is there anything else that could have been useful to aid transition?

- Not that I can think of.
- Not sure if anything else would have been possible. Very well prepared for his next step in life.
- Maybe giving the Y6s their own subject books to bring in and out of school for the last 3 months might prepare them for having to do this at High School.
- Juniors did all they could do I feel.

This is a great suggestion and definitely something we will look into trying this year.

Thank you - we've had some brilliant feedback about 'Joseph' and look forward to 'All Shook Up' this year! Excited to see lots of ex-TRJS pupils in lead roles.

- Going and performing as a choir was the most exciting thing our daughter did. She also loved the Art day and the concert we attended.
- No.

- Practising using a timetable.
- Having homework set on different days of the week and handed in on different days.

We already set homework to be completed on different days, but will work on implementing a more varied timetable and link this with bringing books and sports kits into school only on required days.

- Not sure - there is a lot of 'business' to get through in Year 6 and there has to be a balance. The children need to be allowed to enjoy year 6 as well as looking forward to the next step.
- Help us to organise our books and lessons.
- Getting used to stricter rules and punishments.
- None that I can think of.



Is there anything else the Junior School could have done to prepare the children further for their transition?

- No, I think it's just down to the student, the school did plenty
- No
- NO!
- A different approach to homework. My son has really taken a bit of time to get his head around homework not just being at the weekend and getting him to work out due dates and how to organise his time during the week to get things completed.
- Maybe encourage further independence during Y6 with homework tasks, bringing items in, investigating things etc.
- No, everything was handled perfectly.
- Not really
- The older pupils could help the younger children in lesson to see how well they work.
- No - Junior School was / is a fantastic school where my son came into himself. It's just the age of transitioning to High School - which is what it is.
- No we feel she was very well prepared for High School.
- No, felt they were prepared sufficiently.
- Mixing the classes up for different lessons to get used to being with different pupils and teachers.

We implemented the mixed maths groups across Y5 and Y6 last year where children were taught by a different teacher each week for the final half term with a range of different pupils in the class. Feedback from pupils was that they found this a really rewarding experience and good preparation.

- I think the Junior School did brilliantly in preparing the children for transition. I can't think of any more you could have done.
- Maybe start to have more little homework projects Monday to Friday to get them used to managing their timetables and handing things in. I would've liked to do the reading tests at home (easy ones) a lot sooner - two a week.
- I think they need to be encouraged to be more independent before Y6. A lot of the High School homework involved finding information about a subject and presenting it in their own words which we have found a challenge! Also making notes and revising for tests is a new skill we've quickly had to try to develop.
- Clip on tie practice?!
- Carrying bags around all day.
- It could be really useful to start giving out small 'punishments' in Y6 for forgotten homework / games kit etc. so the detentions given in Y7 aren't too much of a shock!

Any further comments regarding transition?

- We feel the Junior side of the transition to be good.
- My son was very excited and really looked forward to going, even though he was very happy at the Junior School. He was ready for the step up - this was largely due to the excellent staff at TRJS.
- I asked my son for his opinion and he thought transition was good.
- It has taken quite a bit of time to get used to the level of homework and having to be organised to complete homework for different lessons from different teachers.

- Transition is well thought through and planned meaning that the children know exactly what to expect when they start at High School. They are encouraged to be independent both socially and academically.
- Juniors great.
- Thank you for your efforts as a school!! Very impressed.
- As with the transition from Infant to Junior it was well thought out with the children's needs at the heart of it.
- Personally I feel as a school you could not have done any more regarding the transition. Parents, I feel, have a big part to play!
- No, I feel that my son's transition was fine and he has settled into High School really well.

Is there any other feedback that you would like to offer about any other aspect of Junior School?

- My son wishes he was back at TRJS. Thanks all.
- Both our children enjoyed their years at TRJS very much. They were both very happy there and both made good academic progress.
- Excellent, positive experience!
- I really think the teaching strategies and responsibilities given to my son in Y6 were the making of him....you may have been a bit too good - he still misses you!
- I think the Junior School do prepare children well, it's just a big step up, which we are still getting to grips with.
- My son missed you all very much and wanted me to let Y6 staff know that he is thriving at High School and has been put in to all of the top classes except for PE 😊
- The Juniors is a fantastic, supportive setting for any child from Y3 upwards. The SLT and reception staff seem to know each child very well and are always very friendly and approachable.
- Have always and will always say it is the best of the Barton Schools! Amazing Headteacher and great staff. My daughter loved every single second she was with you.
- I would just like to pass on my thanks and appreciation for all of the hard work done at Thomas Russell Junior in order to encourage both of my children academically, socially and behaviourally. Your interactions have added to their well-roundedness and they are now doing really well at High School. Thank you.
- The Junior School have been fantastic for all 3 of our children. I feel that the staff really got to know all of them which meant they got help and challenges to suit them. My daughters talk about lots of very happy memories from their time with you. Thank you.
- The Junior School was fantastic. We couldn't have asked for a better place for our daughter to attend. Her willingness to study and learn astounds us and that love of learning has come from TRJS.
- My son was really well looked after throughout his time at TRJS. I think he benefitted from being part of a happy cohesive year group - but at all times staff were superb. We feel very lucky to have this school on our doorstep.
- Please see thank you letter with gift for staff.
- I feel every aspect of transitional visits / activities helped our daughter's move to High School easier. She has settled well and is growing in confidence.
- My daughter thoroughly enjoyed her time spent at TRJS. She was very sad to leave. She has been given a good grounding she can build on now at High School. Thank you.