



**Belfast Model
School for Girls**
ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

Year 8 Student Voices

‘Our First Term’



Achievement for All



School Priorities

2018 ~ 2022

- **Promoting and supporting the health and wellbeing of the members of our school community**
- **Developing culture, character and care for learning**
- **Improving quality of learning and teaching**
- **Improving attendance**
- **Improving student outcomes at KS4/Post 16**

TO BE A MORE EFFECTIVE SCHOOL



A warm welcome to everyone! As we approach the end of a very successful first term, our students in Year 8 were asked for their thoughts and feelings about life and learning in Belfast Model School for Girls.

We hope that their comments will give you an insight into their experiences and show you how happy and settled they are, with their learning and school life.

Ms P Stuart (Principal)

Mrs S McKeown (Leader of Learning – Year 8)

<u>Student</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Partner Primary School</u>
Emmie Ritchie	8E	Glenwood Primary School
Jasmine Edwards	8L	Ballysillan Primary School
Louisa Clugston	8E	Carnmoney Primary School
Louise McCaw	8S	Carr's Glen Primary School
Tia Spencer	8O	Ligoniel Primary School
Leah Bell	8S	Edenbrooke Primary School
Ellie Doherty	8E	Springhill Primary School
Lauryn Currie	8W	Glenwood Primary School

Emmie Ritchie ~ 8E
(Glenwood Primary School)



Hi, my name is Emmie Ritchie and I am in 8E. When I got the letter to say I was going to be a Model girl I remember being filled with so much joy. I was beaming with excitement and was so glad that I had received a place in such an amazing school.

I felt so nervous the night before, I could hardly sleep, I was just thinking what is it going to be like being a Year 8? What will the subjects be like? Will I make friends? I wonder what my form tutor will be like? My first day was amazing, when I walked in I felt really special. I was greeted by teachers and sixth form students. I got to find out my form class and my new form room. I met lots of new friends and played fun games.

My first term has been incredible; from the moment I first walked in through the school gates, to the moment I walk in to my form class every morning. I love going in every morning and greeting all my friends and teachers along the way, it is so welcoming. My favourite thing so far has been spending time with my brilliant form class, they really are all lovely girls.

My favourite subjects are Maths, English, History, Music, Drama, Home Economics and French. I really love English because I like to write and create stories, Drama because I love to perform and act and Music I love because I have a real passion for singing.

I have joined Hair and Beauty club, Art and Gardening clubs. I enjoy Gardening because I love taking care of plants and helping the environment. I enjoy Art because I love to paint and you can never make a mistake in Art and I love Hair and Beauty because I like to learn about make-up and styling hair.

The advice that I would give to a P7 girl is that you should never doubt yourself, be confident, believe in yourself and work hard, this is a great school and you will do really well. Dreams really can come true!

Jasmine Edwards - 8L
(Ballysillan Primary School)



Hi, my name is Jasmine Edwards and I am in 8L with Mrs Ward. When I received my letter to say that I was going to be a Model student I was both excited and nervous. I was excited to be joining my friends, especially some older girls that I know from Year 10, but nervous about moving to a new school.

The night before my first day I was anxious that I wouldn't know anyone and I was afraid that I would get lost. On my first day there were lots of older girls to help us find our way into our classes. When we got into our classrooms we got a Starter Kit which had everything that we needed for starting school. We also had an assembly where we met our Principal and Leader of Learning. On my first day I didn't know anyone in my form class, but now I know almost everyone.

My first term at Belfast Model School for Girls has been amazing! I have got to learn some really interesting things and I really feel that I now know so much more than when I was in primary school. My favourite subjects are English, Science, History, Art and Drama. Drama is my most favourite because I love to act and it is so much fun.

I like break and lunch times in school, they are great and a good chance to catch up with your friends. The food in our canteen is great and I love it, I am sure you will enjoy it too. There are also lunchtime clubs and after school clubs, they are brilliant, there really is something for everyone.

My advice to anyone thinking of joining our school would be to just be yourself, you will really enjoy it and make great friends. If you do ever have any problems or need any help please just ask, there are lots of people to help you. You will really enjoy our school, it is so much fun and you got to learn so many amazing things!

Louisa Clugston ~ 8E
(Carnmoney Primary School)



Hi, I'm Louisa Clugston and I am in 8E with Miss Morrison and I went to Carnmoney Primary School.

I was so excited to be lucky enough to receive a place in Belfast Model School for Girls. I really wanted to go to an all-girls school as I didn't want to put up with annoying boys in my new school. I was so nervous before I started, but I was also really looking forward to making lots of new friends, which I have!

I am super sporty so my favourite subject is PE. My other favourite subjects are Art, Drama and Home Economics – I really enjoy practical subjects. I go to Fitness, Football and Hockey clubs after school. I really enjoy them and would recommend that you sign up to these clubs, joining clubs is a great way to help make friends.

Break and lunch times are fun, I love meeting up with all my friends and catching up. The food is great, there is always a good selection and everyone always can find something they like.

If you are thinking about which school to go to, I would recommend our school, you will really enjoy it. I would just like to wish you good luck and I hope you have lots of fun wherever you decide to go.

Louise McCaw - 8S
(Carr's Glen Primary School)



Hi my name is Louise McCaw and I am in 8S with Miss Campbell. When I opened my letter telling me I was going to be a 'Model Girl' I felt excited but was also a bit nervous about going to an all girls school as I had been so used to having boys in my class for seven years.

The night before school began I got really nervous, it was so close now, but I still got a good night's sleep. I found the first day a bit strange as it was so different from primary school, but I knew a girl in my class from my primary school so that helped me and it wasn't as bad. We played lots of games to help us get to know each other. I really like my class, they are really nice and supportive and also funny.

My favourite subjects are History, Geography, Art, Drama, Home Economics and RE because those classes are fun. I really like Home Economics because I really enjoy cooking, I also like RE because it is a nice calming subject.

My advice to anyone thinking about coming to our school would be to be yourself, be nice and respectful to staff and other students and you will get on well. Don't be scared about moving school, be calm, the subjects are fine and the teachers are great. I would also say be confident, don't be shy, just say hello to people and you will make lots of friends.

Tia Spencer - 8O
(Ligoniel Primary School)



Hi, I'm Tia Spencer and I am in 8O with the lovely Ms Simpson. I was so happy when I found out I'd got a place in Belfast Model School for Girls and couldn't wait to get started.

The night before I started I was quite nervous, but I was also happy and excited. I worried I wouldn't make any friends. My first day was good, I made lots of new friends and met my form teacher and we all had a good chat and got to know each other. We had an assembly with Ms Stuart and our parents were invited to come and have lunch as well.

My first term has been great, I have made so many friends and learned so much in my lessons. I really enjoy moving around the school and going to all the different classes. My favourite subjects are Home Economics, PE and French. I love Home Economics because I get to make different foods, I love French because it's something new, in primary school we didn't get to learn any other languages. I really like PE as we get to do so many different activities. The lunch time and after school clubs are good – there is a great variety, from Cookery to PE clubs and Art to Maths. There really is something for everyone.

I hear the canteen food is great, I bring a packed lunch so don't get food from the canteen, but I enjoy sitting with my friends to eat my lunch. I am also diabetic so I have to be careful about what I eat and have to make sure I take the correct medication. Mrs Finlay helps me with this, it's great to know she is there for me if I am worried about anything.

My advice to you would be to come to our school, it is the best and most fun school you will ever find. On your first day you will be nervous but that will fade away as soon as you get a tour around the school. You will have a blast here at Belfast Model School for Girls.

Leah Bell ~ 8S
(Edenbrooke Primary School)



Hi, I'm Leah Bell and I am in 8S. I was so nervous waiting to hear if I had got a place in Belfast Model School for Girls, I really wanted to come here as my mummy and two aunties both came here and I really wanted to follow in their footsteps. I was so happy when my letter arrived to tell me that I had been successful.

The night before my first day was a rollercoaster of mixed emotions. I was excited to start a new chapter of my life, although at the same time I was nervous, what if I didn't know anyone? What if I got lost? What if I got all the worst teachers in the school? I really shouldn't have worried, my first day was great, and yes I knew people but I also made so many new friends. My form teacher was so kind and made us all feel welcome really quickly. After my first day I knew I had nothing to worry about and everything was going to be fine.

My first term has been brilliant and quite different from primary school. My favourite thing has been making so many new friends and trying out all of the clubs, my favourite club is Science club – it is so much fun and Mr Lavery is so nice. My favourite subjects are Maths, History, Art, Drama and Music. I like these ones because we do lots of different activities in them and we get break from writing all the time.

If I could give you any advice, I would say don't be nervous or worried, because there really aren't any reasons to be. There are so many people here to help you, staff and students, they are all lovely. You will make lots of amazing new friends. Good Luck!

Ellie Doherty - 8E
(Springhill Primary School)



Hi, my name is Ellie Doherty and I attended Springhill Primary School. I am in 8E. When I was waiting on my letter coming I was really nervous as I had no idea what would be coming. To be honest, I was a little bit upset because this wasn't my first choice school, but I absolutely love it now and I would much rather be here than anywhere else.

The night before my first day I was nervous and excited and couldn't sleep at all. The morning came soon enough and off I went for my first day. I was so nervous travelling to school on that first day but it was really good and I had so much fun, I wonder now what I was even nervous about.

My first term has been fantastic, there are so many differences from Primary school, but the one that I like the most is moving around the school rather than just sitting in one room with the one teacher. I like to be active and enjoy the subjects where we get to move around, I'm not keen on sitting writing silently. My favourite subjects are Art, Technology, Drama, Home Economics and PE.

There are so many lunchtime and extra-curricular clubs to join. I attend Art club at lunch and after school I attend Hockey, Trampolining and Fitness. Joining clubs has helped me to make so many friends, so I would highly recommend it.

My advice to any of you reading this who are thinking about coming to our school is just to go for it, it is an incredible school and you will do amazingly well here. Good Luck, hopefully I will meet some of you in September.

Lauryn Currie ~ 8W
(Glenwood Primary School)



Hi, my name is Lauryn Currie and I am in 8W. My Form Tutor is Mr Morrow. When I received the news that I was going to be a Model student I was over the moon and was jumping up and down on my living room floor, I read the letter over and over and was really happy. The night before my first day I was very nervous but also excited at the same time, I didn't know what to expect.

On my first day I was really nervous, I didn't know which class I was going to be in. I walked in and sat on my seat and I looked around to see who I knew. Our teacher was great and helped us to learn everyone's names, we had lots of fun and I made lots of new friends. I made so many friends on the first day that I found it hard to make some more for the first week, but by the end of the second week I knew so many more people.

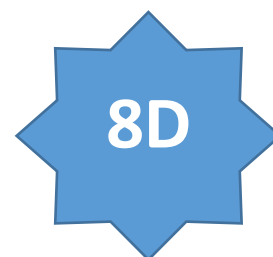
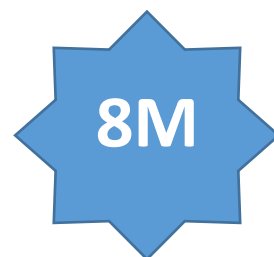
My favourite subjects are Music, French, Literacy, Maths, ICT, Home Economics and Science. Music is my most favourite subject because I love learning piano and other instruments. I really enjoyed making and performing our 'All About Me' raps.

Our school canteen, The Dunowen, has their own fingerprint system, I love this, this is how we pay for our food. The canteen always has something for everyone, I really love the food, there is always something that I like, especially the hot dogs and burgers.

There are lunchtime clubs that we can join. I have joined Hair and Beauty where you can straighten or curl a dolls hair and paint nails on a mannequin, it's great fun. I also joined Board Games on a Friday, we play Monopoly, Chess and lots more. This club is run by our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors who are lovely.

If you were thinking about coming to Belfast Model School for Girls my advice to you would be not to worry, you have absolutely nothing to worry about because we have lots of lovely teachers, helpful assistants and really nice students.

Good luck in choosing your new school and have lots of fun



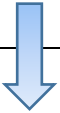
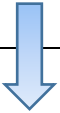








Belfast Model School for Girls

3 Year Transition Programme

 Supporting Your Child From Primary To Post Primary Education 	Primary 6 Partner Primary Schools Link Programme	Year 1 
	Primary 7 Partner Primary Schools Link Programme - December Taster Day Primary School Tour by Belfast Model School for Girls Staff Open Evening Year 8 Induction Meetings Year 8 Parent/Student/Teacher Individual Interviews Primary School Visits by Belfast Model School for Girls Year 8 team	 Year 2 
	Year 8 Summer Scheme in partnership with Integrated Services & Greater Shankill Partnership Year 8 Induction Programme & Team Building Activities, Trips, Visits, Workshops	 Year 3

Achievement for All



Belfast Model School for Girls

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