



## GIGGLESWICK SCHOOL

### Hannah reflects on her Giggleswick experience



Hannah (left), with fellow pupil Emily (right)

German student Hannah joined Year 11 at Giggleswick in September 2020, and since returning home has shared her experience and how it compares to her education in Germany.

*"I have been a huge fan of the Harry Potter series since I was little, and I have always wanted to go to Hogwarts, a dream that, of course, was never really within reach. But even though there are no charm classes or three headed dogs at Giggleswick, the old school buildings with its stone towers and battlements have an undeniable similarity to a magical castle.*

*I chose Giggleswick because they seemed to suit my interests and wishes best. It was a very important precondition for me that I would always have something to do, especially in my spare time, since I was boarding full time and would therefore spend my whole time at school. Giggleswick seemed to offer this with its wide range of sport offers and co-curricular activities.*

*Since I had very little time to organize for everything, I was worried that I would forget something or couldn't prepare properly. Fortunately, I received lots of support from Giggleswick, and everything went well, one week later I was already on my way to England.*

*It was difficult for me to say goodbye to my family and friends since I wouldn't see them for the longest time in my life yet. I feared that I would get homesick and that it would be difficult for me to make friends. After I arrived, these worries were unfounded. I soon became friends with other international students from Spain, Russia and Germany, and the English girls that lived on the corridor with me were very nice as well. Surprisingly, I wasn't homesick at all, even though I missed my family. There was always someone who would help me when I struggled with something and the teachers were great. I settled in quickly and soon felt at home.*

*The school day were different to what I am used to in Germany; the classes were smaller, and lessons took longer, but I prefer it like that. Something I really enjoyed was the art department, there were so many different things to do and in lessons I could even do ceramics, something I would not get to do at my German school.*

*Last week, I returned to Germany and when I look back at the time I spent at Giggleswick, I see that I really evolved; I'm more self-confident and independent, and of course my English improved significantly. I am thankful for the opportunity and one day I will come back to visit Giggleswick!"*