



*Achieving Excellence Together*

# Barnwell School

**PROSPECTUS**

2023/2024





## **Welcome to Barnwell School**

### **Making the Difference - The Barnwell Way**

*Our vision is to create and deliver an outstanding educational experience for every student at Barnwell school. We will achieve this through:*

*Valuing every student as an individual, ensuring they realise their potential by providing an aspirational and engaging curriculum.*

*Delivering the highest standards of teaching and learning to ensure excellent progress and achievement that inspires all our students.*

*Ensuring no matter what the starting point, outstanding progress is achievable by all.*

*Supporting student growth and development through our close caring community ethos of respect and tolerance for others and building a sense of belonging*

*Providing a learning environment which is both stimulating, supportive; fosters excellence and independence.*

*Inspiring a culture and thirst for lifelong learning based on motivation, challenge, praise and reward to enable students to achieve their goals in life.*

*Building positive partnerships with parents and the local community to widen opportunities and secure high quality outcomes for all of our students*

*By setting high expectations, we expect all students to progress and maximise their potential by seizing the opportunities provided and valuing their education in order to meet the challenges of our rapidly changing world.*

## **OUR SCHOOL**

Our school is unique in Stevenage, located on two adjacent sites, Barnwell Middle and Upper Campus provide the best of both worlds, the advantage of two small sites that provide students with age-appropriate facilities and room to develop and grow, along with the resources and opportunities that come with a larger school. The learning environment ensures that our students achieve and reach their academic potential whilst enjoying their studies.

The school promotes a 'can do' culture and through our 'Character Education' students are encouraged to challenge themselves and aspire to be the best they can be. Our progressive and broad curriculum places emphasis on challenging students to build skills and knowledge for a successful career in the future.

We also place great emphasis on the importance of our students taking part in the school's co-curricular activities to develop qualities and skills that are valued in the workplace and the community.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to Barnwell, to experience, for yourself, the positive atmosphere and outstanding opportunities it offers our students.

## **SCHOOL STRUCTURE**

The Middle school campus is home to key stage 3 students (Years 7, 8 and 9). At the end of Year 9 students transfer to the Upper school campus for key stage 4 (Years 10 and 11) and sixth form (Years 12 and 13).

On starting school in Year 7 students join one of three colleges (Ennis, Hoy and Redgrave). Having three colleges allows for a very individual and personalised learning experience.

Each college also has a Head of college who, together with form tutors, provides excellent pastoral care. There is a very healthy competition between the colleges with the college cup being fiercely contended each year.

The school is organised, academically, into curriculum facilities, each of which has a Head of faculty who is responsible for the quality of provision and student progress.

Key stage 3 progress is monitored in all subjects throughout the academic year. If we identify early signs of students underachieving, we are able to quickly put targeted intervention into place to ensure that the students close their skills gaps. All students have a clear awareness of their progress goals and what they need to do to achieve them.

When students move to the Upper school for their KS4 education, they retain their college identity but are amalgamated into year groups. Again, each year group receives excellent pastoral care via their Head of Year and form tutors.

Our sixth form is a thriving part of our school community. We are able to offer an extensive range of subjects at both Level 2 and Level 3. If a student wishes to study a course or combination that we are unable to offer, we provide maximum opportunities for our students through our sixth form consortium, which allows the students to study one of their subjects at another centre in Stevenage.

### **TRANSITION FROM PRIMARY**

We understand that the move to secondary school can be both exciting and daunting for both parents and students alike, we run a highly acclaimed transition program to ensure a smooth and effective transition to Barnwell School. We want the experience of moving to a new school to be an exciting time for our new families, we communicate regularly to reassure and support new students, whilst helping them to understand and respond to new challenges and opportunities on offer.

Our transition team works very closely with the primary feeder schools. Our transition lead teacher and student ambassadors visit all schools in the summer term. Our new intake evening allows parents and students to be introduced to key members of staff. Year 6 students also spend a day with us so that they can explore the school, meet relevant teaching and support staff and enjoy a day of activities.

In the autumn term parents are invited to attend an information evening where they have the opportunity to find out about ways to effectively support their children in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. Subsequently, parents are invited to many other evenings such as literacy and numeracy workshops to help support their children with their learning.

### **THE PASTORAL SYSTEM**

Students at Barnwell tell us that they feel part of a community and enjoy coming to school. Key to this is high quality pastoral care and support and we therefore make this a priority to ensure that our students quickly become involved in the life of the school in order to feel secure and settled.

On joining the school, students become a member of one of our three colleges – Ennis, Hoy and Redgrave, our highly experienced and aspirational Heads of College quickly get to know every child. Form Tutors provide daily support and are there to ensure that their students are settled and making good progress. Our college system ensures that students are part of a small and distinct group along with being a member of the wider school community. Students remain in the same college throughout their school career.

Our College system provides students with many excellent student leadership opportunities. Many aspire to become college ambassadors and challenge themselves in a wide range of leadership roles. The colleges are very competitive, competitions run throughout the year. The College Cup is fiercely contested; students earn points not only for their work in lessons but also in many other ways that allow for every student to represent or contribute to their college. We aim to offer our students new opportunities which inspire them and open up their future.

Throughout the year there are many occasions where we celebrate and reward the many successes of our students, the most popular are the College reward trips and celebration evenings.

## **CHARACTER EDUCATION AND PRIDE**

Barnwell School prides itself on providing all students with the opportunity to achieve personal academic success. We have recognised that students who realise and surpass their individual academic targets have some key character traits that have facilitated their outstanding learning journey. These traits all revolve around the acronym PRIDE.

Character Education provides a culture of self-belief and expectation. All Barnwell students are given the opportunity to be Passionate, Respectful, Innovative, Determined and Empathetic learners – PRIDE. Students are given regular guidance on how to show PRIDE in their learning, through Barnwell Pride Lessons and the pastoral curriculum, leading to them exhibiting a positive attitude to learning where they are highly motivated. Students are responsible for their learning and encouraged to work beyond the limits of their ability, behaving in a manner that ensures that outstanding progress takes place.

**PRIDE** stands for:

- PASSIONATE** Having a drive and thirst for learning which is relentless throughout your learning journey.
- RESPECTFUL** Having the ability to accept that people's opinions and beliefs are important and not try to change them.
- INNOVATIVE** Having the courage to think creatively when looking for new methods to lead you to success.
- DETERMINED** Having an unwavering desire to succeed regardless of the barriers.
- EMPATHETIC** Having the ability to understand the feelings and circumstances of others

## **POSITIVE RECOGNITION**

Barnwell has an extensive intrinsic reward system which aims to motivate and encourage our students. This is a vital aspect of 'The Barnwell Way' and Character Education in that the achievements and success of students are acknowledged and praised. This helps to build upon individual self – confidence and self – esteem, leading to further personal development throughout a young person's journey through school.

Across the school:

- Students compete for the prestigious 'college cup' each year.
- We offer extensive leadership opportunities such as the Student Ambassador programme, Subject Ambassadors, Head boy and girl and the post 16 Student Leadership Team

- A variety of trips and visits are arranged throughout the year in recognition of those students who have made outstanding progress and have exhibited a first-class attitude to their learning both in and out of lessons.
- Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 awards evening for ambassadors and PRIDE winners
- Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 sports awards evenings and the annual sports dinner

## **LEARNING SPACES**

Students enjoy the benefits of outdoor resources, large sport fields, astra turf pitch, large leisure centre, and tennis courts.

The libraries on both schools are well stocked with a wide range of reading books, they are open throughout the day, including lunchtime and after school for homework club. They offer computer facilities and a comfortable place where students can learn and study independently.

Although on two Campuses, Upper Campus students move securely and easily between the campuses for lessons whereas our younger students remain on our Middle School Campus. We have been fortunate to attract funding to improve facilities across both campuses, we remain as ambitious for our school and are always actively seeking out further funding to enable us to continue with our planned developments of new enhanced aspirational learning environments.

The school's catering facilities provide an excellent and efficient service at break and lunchtimes. Both serve a good range of hot and cold food. Facilities on both campuses benefit from a biometric finger recognition system which provides a totally cashless environment for students.

Our Post 16 Centre facilities are excellent. The teaching, study and social areas provide an aspirational environment for students. In addition to tailored teaching facilities, there are spacious study areas equipped with many computers to support students in their study. Students have access to a member of staff at all times for advice and guidance where necessary.

## **QUALITY FIRST TEACHING - Consistency, Challenge and Creativity**

At Barnwell we believe in delivering high quality and inclusive teaching, that draws on a range of strategies to meet the individual needs of students. Our school is a place of learning and inspiration, consistently providing opportunities and challenge. We encourage all our students to have the aspiration to challenge themselves to achieve highly within their academic studies and other aspects of school life. We have an 'inclusive' philosophy within our lessons, ensuring barriers to learning are overcome with well planned, creative and stimulating teaching.

Students are encouraged to believe in themselves to achieve their academic and social potential, enabling them to succeed in securing their future in further education, training or the workplace. Our curriculum is designed to challenge and engage students, offering them the very best preparation for exam success and the skills and confidence required to make full use of their qualifications.

Barnwell is committed to provide both staff and students personal development opportunities, ensuring everyone has the chance to grow and develop.

## **ASSESSMENT, RECORDING AND REPORTING**

Communication of student progress is essential in the teaching and learning process. Student progress is continually assessed in lessons and teacher planning for progression is structured accordingly. All students and parents are kept fully informed of progress and receive student targets and progress reports after data track points throughout the year.

## **HOMEWORK**

It is vital that students become effective and independent learners, regular and meaningful homework is an important part of this process, it allows parents the opportunity to become fully involved in their child's learning. It deepens and reinforces learning, builds self-reliance and fosters a sense of responsibility.

We see homework as an opportunity to forge strong home – school partnerships, giving parents/carers the opportunity to take an active part in their child's education. The school uses 'SatchelOne', an online homework planner, which ensures homework is set effectively across the school. Students have easy access through computers, tablets or smart phones, enabling them to see, prioritise their workload using their personalised calendar and have access to resources and links to helpful websites. Parents/carers also have access to their own 'SatchelOne account, allowing them to play a more active role in home learning.

## **THE CURRICULUM**

The academic curriculum at Barnwell School allows our students to:

- Become hardworking, independent learners who are highly motivated to achieve their full potential.
- Be independent, ambitious, and confident learners who are fully engaged with their learning and development.
- Have and be able to use high quality functional skills, including key literacy numeracy and computing skills.
- Be confident in reading, to ensure that they can access the full curriculum offer.
- Be responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to their community and are respectful and show understanding towards others.

All students at Barnwell have access to a broad, balanced and relevant range of subjects, covering new opportunities with traditional subjects.

To support all students in their academic and social development, we have designed a personalised curriculum along the following principles:

- An inclusive curriculum that is accessible for all students and supports students in realising their full potential.
- A broad and balanced range of subjects which also develop transferable skills to support progression to the next stage of education and working life in modern society.
- Priority given to English and mathematics to ensure that students have the essential skills needed for life and to access the full curriculum.
- A wide range of enrichment and extra-curricular activities to develop personal interests, broaden cultural awareness and social skills.

- A full range of appropriate vocational and academic courses that prepare all students for higher education or training courses which meet the needs of students and prepare them with the skills required for local employment sectors.

### **KEY STAGE 3**

Students follow a core curriculum including Art, Dance, Drama, English, French, German, Geography, History, IT/Computing, Mathematics, Music, PE, Philosophy & Ethics, PRIDE (PSHCE and RSE), Science, Spanish and Design & Technology. There is also a structured pastoral curriculum that supports personal development and wellbeing.

During Year 7 students are taught in mixed ability groups for English and in sets for maths and science. Students are assessed for progress half termly and students' progress is reported to parents three times a year.

We have recognised that by Year 9, students are beginning to consider their option choices for Key Stage 4 (Year 10). To aid this process, we have modified the traditional Key Stage 3 curriculum to allow students to focus on fewer subjects for longer periods of time during Year 9. Year 9 students opt to study in greater depth two Creative Learning subjects, one Expressive/Performing Arts and one Modern Foreign Language. Students also choose to study an additional Expressive/Performing Art subject, a second language, IT/Computer Science, Sport, Construction or Finance. This increased time allows students to begin to explore the skills and content required at GCSE. More curriculum time is given to Science, Geography and History.

In the autumn of Year 9 students begin to consider their option choices for Key stage 4. Excellent information, advice and guidance is provided for both students and parents to ensure that they make the best possible choices.

### **KEY STAGE 4**

All students work towards national qualifications, studying a broad and balanced curriculum allowing a variety of different progression routes into sixth form, further education, and apprenticeships. The EBacc is at the heart of our KS4 Curriculum, and we offer subjects in each area of the National Curriculum. All students study the core subjects; GCSE English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science (Triple or Combined), PRIDE, RE and PE. Students then can gain deeper knowledge and understanding in up to four foundation/option subjects.

Students receive guidance on how to select the most appropriate option subjects to meet their needs, interests, aptitudes, and aspirations.

Throughout both the academic and pastoral systems, students will be fully prepared for external exams and mentored through the transition to Post 16.

## **KEY STAGE 4 SUBJECTS**

GCSE: Art, Computer Science, Catering, Drama, Textiles, Geography, French, German, Spanish, History, Media studies, Business studies, Product design, Dance, Art photography, Psychology, Citizenship, Religious Education

BTEC Health and Social care, Construction, Graphics, Sport, IT, Music, Dance

## **SIXTH FORM**

Working in partnership across Stevenage, students are able to choose from a wide range of Level 3 A-levels and vocational courses. We also offer a strong provision for students progressing from Level 1 to Level 2 courses. Our curriculum allows students with a particular aptitude in a subject or with high GCSE grades to work in groups of similarly talented students.

## **SIXTH FORM SUBJECTS**

A Level: Art and design, English language, Mathematics, Art photography, French, Media studies, Biology, Further mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Geography, Drama, Sociology, German, History, Product design, English literature, Law, Economics, Government & Politics

CTEC/BTEC: Health and Social Care, Applied Science, Applied Psychology, Law, Business Studies, Sport, Dance, Performing Arts

Pre-Apprenticeship Programme: A one-year course that is aimed at Post 16 students as an alternative to A-levels. The programme consists of vocational/academic studies which specifically cater for the students' onward journey into apprenticeship: BTEC Level 2 Workskills/BTEC Level 2 Planning and Participating in Work Experience/BTEC Level 2 Personal & Social Development/GCSE Maths/English re-sits if required. There is also an element of work Experience for 3 days per week from October – July and this is a bespoke provision, tailored to each individual student's future aspirations.

## **CO- CURRICULAR/EXTRA – CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Students are given a variety of opportunities to develop as individuals within the school. We are proud of the range of activities available to our students. There is a plethora of exciting and stimulating clubs and events that run during lunchtimes and after school. The Middle and Upper schools offer a full range to cater for every student regardless of ability, our expectation is that all students participate in at least one co-curricular activity on a regular basis. These include, amongst others, a comprehensive range of sporting opportunities, performing arts and music, computing, science, eco, karting, Duke of Edinburgh and language clubs. Students have access to a fully equipped leisure centre, Astroturf, football and rugby pitches, gyms, dance studios and tennis courts. Students are actively encouraged to use these facilities, not only during lessons, but also during extensive co-curricular activities. We even have an allotment for the keen gardeners amongst our students.

Frequent visits are organised to theatres and other places of cultural interest. Students also have many opportunities to travel abroad to practise language skills, go skiing and experience the culture of other countries.

## **PERFORMING ARTS**

Barnwell School is the proud recipient of the coveted **Arts Mark Gold Award**. The Artsmark Award is the only creative quality standard for schools and education settings, accredited by Arts Council England. The Gold Award recognises schools that have established expressive arts traditions, develop and support best practice and are able to demonstrate measure effects to student engagement and community cohesion.

Drama, Dance, Art and Music lessons are timetabled for all students throughout the middle school. These together with media studies and performing arts, are options at Key stage 4 and 5. The school also offers peripatetic music lessons for all interested students and many after school musical activities.

In addition to formal lessons leading to a range of qualifications, we hold major shows and concerts each year including an annual entry into the National competitions, where everyone can be involved whether on stage or behind the scenes.

## **SPORTING SUCCESS**

Our sports teams regularly compete at local, regional and national level. The school runs extremely successful teams in football, rugby, netball, athletics, rounders and cricket. We regularly have students competing at county and National level in a variety of sports. The sporting opportunities in school cover the full range of the National Curriculum and are also complemented by a programme of sports days, fun run, community days and Duke of Edinburgh awards at bronze, silver and gold level.

The PE department currently offers CTEC/BTEC qualifications for Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 students to build on and develop knowledge. Results in PE are consistently outstanding across all courses.

## **WORKING TOGETHER**

Working in partnership with parents is an essential part of Barnwell. Parents are encouraged to contact the school at any time to discuss their child's progress and we feel it is important that we provide opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's education.

There are many other forms of parental contact. These can be divided into the following sections:

- Contact with subject areas – with Heads of Faculty and teaching staff.
- Heads of College/Year and Form Tutor contact
- Parents evening – Information evenings and Consultation evenings
- Headteacher weekly update

It is important that form tutors are kept fully informed of all relevant issues relating to students in their form and form tutors are the focal point for all communication with parents.

Our Parent Partnership meet each half term in an informal relaxed environment to discuss and plan school enhancements from a parent's perspective.

Visitors to the school often comment on the friendly, respectful and purposeful atmosphere at the school and our proud students who are always happy to show visitors around our school.

## **INFORMATION, ADVICE AND CAREERS**

Our students begin their careers education during Key Stage 3. This helps students learn about and reflect upon the world of work. We stress the importance of informed choice and provide impartial careers and guidance at all times through a student's time at Barnwell.

Barnwell School strongly believes in the benefits of Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) and Careers Education and Guidance (CEG) for all of our students. A young person's career is their pathway through learning into work. We provide all students with a planned programme of activities to help them make informed 14 – 19 choices that are right for them and to be able to manage their careers and become successful citizens.

In line with statutory guidance, Barnwell has a team of impartial and externally sourced Personal Advisors (PA's) from Services for Young People that provide face to face careers guidance. Face to face guidance with a qualified careers adviser will enable students to review their circumstances, abilities, interests and aspirations as they make decisions about future education, training and work options. This support is available for all student's form Year 7 – 13. Barnwell School has invested in an outstanding resource called Unifrog which supports and tracks a student's journey through school and provides excellent online careers advice and guidance. We provide an aspirational programme of university days and visiting speakers which support our students in making the right decisions about their future.

## UNIFORM

Compulsory items of uniform which must be worn / brought to school every day:

- College tie
- Navy blue sweater with collar piping
- Navy Blue Blazer with School Logo
- Standard white shirt
- Black trousers – no 'skinny' or denim style
- Black pleated skirt – of reasonable length, appropriate for a work environment - worn to the knee or just above the knee (pleats must be the full circumference of the skirt, either from the waistband down or with a short plain panel from the top of the skirt. There is no stipulation on the size or style of pleat)
- Socks – plain black or navy blue (socks must be worn below the knee) No sports socks worn with skirts.
- Tights- plain black or beige (no hold-up stockings)
- Hats, coats and scarves - when needed, can be worn to school, but must not be worn in school buildings
- Black closed shoes only – **No sandals, trainers, converse 'style', plimsolls or canvas style are permitted.** Every part of the shoe must be completely black. No stripes, logos, coloured soles or non-black laces are allowed.
- Should a student due to a medical reason need to wear other forms of footwear, the school will require a doctor's note in order to issue a uniform pass for the required period of time indicated by the doctor.
- **Cardigans and hooded tops are not permitted and are not to be worn as outdoor coats.**

## Jewellery

It is permissible to wear the following:

- 1 earring in each ear – a small single stud
- 1 watch
- No facial and visible body piercings allowed. Students will be expected to remove their piercings without exception. Clear retainers are not permitted for any facial piercings.

## Make Up

Make up should be discreet and kept to a minimum. No false eyelashes, coloured nail varnish or false nails. False nails pose a health and safety risk to students as well as contravening our uniform policy. They are not permitted on any school day including non-school uniform days.

### **Extreme weather conditions**

In extreme weather conditions the school will undertake a risk assessment and communicate with parents when there is a temporary change to uniform.

For example, in snow and ice conditions students may be permitted to come to school in boots. When there are sustained high temperatures, students may be permitted to come to school without blazers and ties and when the temperature is above 30 degrees students may be permitted to wear PE kit.

When these changes are implemented students will be informed, and details will be published on the school website.

### **School Uniform Supplier**

Kids Connection situated in the centre of Hertford stocks Barnwell School branded uniform.

<https://www.kidsconnection.co.uk/school/barnwell/>

### **Online Ordering**

Uniform can be ordered and paid for online at [www.kidsconnection.co.uk](http://www.kidsconnection.co.uk). Parents can choose delivery to home (currently £5), pick up in store (free) or free delivery to School for collection during term time

### **MOBILE PHONES**

Barnwell School operates a 'not seen not heard' policy. We appreciate that parents may wish for their son / daughter to have a mobile phone, when travelling to and from school. Once at school, mobile phones should be turned off and put into the student's bag or their inside blazer pocket. Mobile phones are not allowed to be out at any time in school. Students are not allowed to wear smart watches.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Punctuality and excellent attendance are a key to success and certificates are awarded for high attendance levels. It is expected that students attend every day and in the event of absence through illness, parents should telephone the school the first day of absence on the following telephone number: 01438 761400

### **Authorised absence**

These include half days on which students are not on school premises due to school trips or work experience, as well as the more usual reason, which is illness.

## Unauthorised absence

The number of unauthorised absences is low, as we urge parents to co – operate with us to ensure that absence is kept to a minimum. We request that parents do not take holidays in term time as it seriously disrupts students’ education. The government has amended key legislation relating specifically to the authorisation of leave in term time. The amendments came into force on 1 September 2013. From 1 September 2013, Headteachers in any school are not able to grant any leave ‘Exceptional circumstances’ might include such circumstances as the funeral or wedding of a close relative or representing school at county or national level. Taking students out of school for the purpose of holidays will no longer be acceptable and will not be authorised.

Medical appointments, where possible, should be made at the end of the school day. Where this is not possible there is an expectation that students should attend school before / after the appointment.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

Students with special needs are assessed prior to entry, in conjunction with their primary schools and parents for necessary arrangements to be in place for a successful transfer. The SENCO heads a team of experienced teaching assistants many of whom have specific specialist training and who support students in mainstream and small learning support groups.

## TIMES OF THE DAY

The school day begins for students at 8.30 am with tutor time and ends at 3.00 pm. The school day is divided into 6 x 50 minute lessons.

8.30am-8.50am	Tutor time
8.50am-9.40am	Period 1
9.40am-10.30am	Period 2
10.30 am – 10.50 am	Break
10.50am-10.55am	Transition time
10.55 am – 11.45 am	Period 3
11.45 am – 12.35 am	Period 4
12.35pm – 1.15 pm	Lunch
1.15pm-1.20pm	Transition time
1.20 pm – 2.10 pm	Period 5
2.10 pm – 3.00 pm	Period 6
3.00 pm – 4.00pm	Period 7 (additional in school support and co– curricular activities)

## **LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS**

Students in Years 7 – 11 are required to remain at school to buy a meal from the canteen or bring a packed lunch. No student is allowed out of school at lunch time.

The school has catering facilities on each campus where catering staff provide a speedy service at break time and lunchtimes. It serves hot food and healthy options whilst also providing hot drinks and snacks. Both facilities have benefitted from the installation of a biometric finger recognition system which is a totally cashless system for students.

## **SCHOOL TRANSPORT**

The majority of students walk, cycle or travel by bus to school. Where appropriate transport is provided by the local authority.

## **ADMISSIONS POLICY**

The entry of children to schools is controlled and administered by Herts County Council 'admissions team'. Each school has an area that it serves – its catchment area. Most parents choose to send their children to their 'local' schools within the catchment area. However, they have the right to state a preference for their children to attend any school. Barnwell primarily serves the areas of south Stevenage and the surrounding villages. However, students do, increasingly, attend Barnwell from all over the county. The authority and each school governing body must comply with any parental preference that is expressed, providing that there is room within the school. For more information regarding places at our school for September intake at year 7 refer to the 'Moving on' booklet. For in-year admissions where we have places, we welcome new students. Further information is on our website; for all admission applications please contact the Admissions team at County Hall.

For students entering the school in September 2023, the school has an admission limit of 270.

## **ANTI – BULLYING POLICY**

Barnwell's definition of bullying is as follows:

"Bullying involves repeated acts of aggression over time: an isolated aggressive act, like a fight, is not bullying".

- Bullying in any form is not acceptable.
- Everyone must help to stop bullying.
- If you are bullied you should tell someone – a teacher, student or someone you feel safe with. It is right to be worried because it is an unpleasant thing to happen. Whatever you do, do not suffer in silence.

- If you see bullying going on, you should tell someone. If you do not, you are part of the problem, because you are helping the bully.
- If you are bullying someone you should stop. If you do not know how to stop, ask someone to help you, you will not get into trouble for that.

Bullying is not tolerated at Barnwell and is dealt with quickly and effectively on the very rare occasion it may occur.

### **EMOTIONAL WELLBEING AND BEHAVIOUR POLICY**

Barnwell has an emotional and wellbeing behaviour policy which issues a clear set of guidelines in order to achieve a high standard of pro-social behaviour, there are also appropriate consequences if these standards are not met, the school does not tolerate poor choices of behaviour and conduct. We want the best for each student, and we work hard to promote personal responsibility for behaviour, high quality work and successful personal development through 'The Barnwell Way'. We do not tolerate negative behaviour and students are supported using a series of strategies and when necessary, sanctions that escalate in seriousness over a period of time. We work closely with parents to model and promote pro-social behaviour.

### **CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY**

In principle, all education is provided freely to all students. Any charges made by the school must meet the requirements of the most recent Education reform act. The school's activities, charging and remissions policy is available at the school. The school is conscious of the fact that it can be difficult for parents to make voluntary contributions for their children to take part in activities and where this is the case, this should not disadvantage a student and we make every effort to ensure that all students can participate.

### **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

All schools have a clear responsibility placed upon them by the Education Act 2002 and by guidance from the department for education to safeguard the welfare of all of their students. In doing so, schools are expected to consult with Children's Services if they believe there is a possibility that a child may be suffering from abuse or neglect. A referral to Children's Services is not intended to be an accusation of any particular action or against any particular person. It is the report of any concern which have come to the school's attention. This is in accordance with Hertfordshire child protection procedures. Barnwell School has a child protection policy and a copy of Hertfordshire child protection procedures, both of which are available for parents/carers to see.

The designated teacher for child protection is Miss Cooper. She will be happy to discuss any questions or concerns parents/carers may have about child protection [s.cooper@barnwell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:s.cooper@barnwell.herts.sch.uk)

### **EQUITY AND DIVERSITY**

Each student is considered to be an individual with unique needs and the matters of equity and diversity are central to the education provision at Barnwell. Support through our pastoral system, PRIDE curriculum and ethics programme assists students in establishing themselves as valued individuals in our society. Support for

learning opportunities is provided throughout the school and we constantly refine our curriculum in order to maximise the opportunities for each student. The full policy can be obtained from reception or on the website.

### **SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EDUCATION (SMSC)**

The school provides a programme of PRIDE lessons with a strong SMSC focus aimed at broadening student's understanding of the world we live in. Students gain a better understanding of the world we live in, along with knowledge of other cultures to develop an improved tolerance and appreciation for different values and morals. Topics covered across the curriculum include health education, community issues, sex education, online safety and cultural diversity.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

Religious Education is delivered through the school curriculum, and school assemblies meet the statutory requirements for collective worship and student reflection. Students are encouraged to play an active part in school assemblies. Parent and carers have the right to withdraw their children wholly or in part from the religious education and collective worship within the school and alternative provision can be made.

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2004**

Under the Freedom of Information act 2004, the following school policies are available.

- School complaints procedures
- Emotional wellbeing and behaviour policy
- Relationship and sex education policy
- Health & Safety at work
- Child protection
- Equity Diversity Policy

### **EXAMINATION ENTRY POLICY**

All students are entered for examinations appropriate to their ability levels, in order to maximise their potential for positive outcomes. Although we have an open policy for examination entries, students are only entered if they are deemed to be ready to sit their examinations. Attendance, work rate, coursework completion and preparation are all factors in these decisions.

## **PUPIL PREMIUM**

Part of the school's funding is now dedicated as 'pupil premium' whose purpose is to address specifically the needs of the most disadvantaged students. Further information on funding is available on the school website.

Each year, the school uses its 'pupil premium' funding in a number of key areas including 1:1 and small group numeracy and literacy intervention, tutoring, universal monitoring and resources for students.

## **SCHOOL DETAILS**

Barnwell is a mixed comprehensive school for students aged 11 to 18 years, situated on two campuses:

Middle school	Barnwell Middle School	Tel: 01438 222500
Years 7,8,9	Shephall Green Stevenage Herts SG2 9XT	

Upper School	Barnwell Upper School	Tel: 01438 222500
Years 10,11,12,13	Barnwell Stevenage Herts SG2 9SW	

Email: [communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk)

Website: [www.barnwellschool.co.uk](http://www.barnwellschool.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mr A Fitzpatrick, BSc, MA, NPQEL