

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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HOW WILL I KNOW WHERE TO GO?

On your first day, you will all meet in the Sports Hall (Y7, Y8 & Y9), Covered Area (Y10) and Canteen (Y11), where staff will meet you. There will be plenty of staff and students to direct you. We are a small school and you will know your way around very quickly.

Q?

HOW DO I BUY MY LUNCH AND WHAT FOOD IS AVAILABLE?

We use an online payment system called MCAS that parents/carers are able to 'top up' on line. You can use your fingerprint to purchase food so no cash is required. There is a wide variety of hot and cold food options to suit all dietary requirements and the menu changes on different days.

Q?

HOW DO I GET TO SCHOOL?

We encourage students to walk or cycle to school where possible. Use a bike lock and a helmet and stay safe by making sure you have lights for the winter months. The roads around school do get busy at the start and end of the day. Some students do use public transport or parental transport to come to school as there are no school buses.

Q?

CAN I GET HELP IF I NEED IT?

Yes – ask your Tutor, Teachers, Heads of Year, Learning Support Assistants or any staff member. There are many people in school who will support you.

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WHAT TIME DOES SCHOOL START?

You need to be at morning greeting by 8:40am. To encourage punctuality, we encourage students to arrive in school for 8:30am. There is a warning bell at 8:35am to help students arrive to their morning greeting location by 8:40am where uniform and equipment is checked.

Q?

HOW MANY STUDENTS ARE THERE IN A CLASS?

Usually around 30 students for most subjects. Practical subjects like Art and DT will be smaller with around 25 students per class.

Q?

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS ON ME IN LESSONS?

Teachers have high expectations of you and will want you to try your best in all that you do. Every student has the right to come to school and learn so you need to ensure you are working hard in lessons and not disrupting the learning of others.

Q?

ARE ALL YEAR GROUPS OUT AT THE SAME TIME E.G. AT LUNCH?

All year groups have the same break and lunch time. Areas are allocated for year groups on the field.

Q?

HOW IS LATENESS DEALT WITH?

Attendance is vital to successful learning and you need to be punctual. If you are late to school, you can expect a 20 minute detention afterschool. To avoid lateness in the morning, we encourage students to arrive in school before 8:30am. There is a warning bell at 8:35am with all students expected to be at morning greeting by 8:40am.

Q?

HOW MUCH IS THE UNIFORM & HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT TO WEAR?

All of this information can be found on the school website. You can purchase uniform online at www.monkhouse.com

Q?

WHAT ARE HOUSES?

We have the following Houses – Attenborough, Jenner and Parks. Houses are made up of tutor groups from Years 7 – 11. Houses feel like smaller schools within our bigger school. We have lots of house competitions and events where you can score points for yourself and your house.

Q?

HOW ARE TEACHERS ADDRESSED?

By their title and surname. For example, Mr Preston or Mrs Rainbow. Male teachers are usually called “Sir” and female teachers called “Miss”.

Q?

ARE STAFF ON DUTY AT BREAK TIMES?

Staff supervise break and lunchtimes. There are plenty of people around to support you and keep you safe. Before and after school, staff are also present on the school gates.

Q?

HOW MUCH HOMEWORK IS THERE?

In year 7, 8 and 9, you should expect to spend 20-30 minutes completing homework per subject per week (English, Maths and Science). MCAS is the schools communication system. It allows you to see your child’s timetable and homework as well as achievement points. You will be sent details about the app and many parents find it helpful as they can help organise their child.

Q?

LESSON STRUCTURE – LENGTH, NUMBER IN DAY?

This information will be on your timetable. You can see an example on the website. There are five, one hour, lessons per day and we operate a two week timetable.

Q?

HOW IS BULLYING DEALT WITH?

Any form of bullying is taken very seriously at Barnwood Park and it is not a common occurrence. The important thing is to report it to a member of staff. We will deal with it and we have an Anti-Bullying Policy. It is hard to say exactly how we deal with each case, because no two cases are the same. Our aim is always to make it stop and we will take whatever actions are needed to make this happen. Our policies are on our website for you to look at.

Q?

WHAT EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS DO YOU PROVIDE?

We have a comprehensive programme of activities that changes each term to provide students with more opportunities to develop their skills beyond the classroom. Activities include The Duke of Edinburgh Award, Football, Rugby, Dance, Drama, Maths Clubs, Young Writers Club and Art Club to name but a few.

We also provide lots of trips and visits that link to the curriculum and look to provide our students with as many opportunities as possible.

Q?

WHAT SEND SUPPORT IS THERE?

We are an inclusive school but operate with limited capacity for SEN students.

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WHAT EQUIPMENT DO I NEED?

You will be provided with all your equipment on day one. The only thing you need to bring is a protractor and a scientific calculator.

MOBILE PHONES	Mobile phones are not permitted to be used during the school day. They must be switched off and kept in bags or lockers until the end of the day.
LOCKER KEYS	Students are able to rent a locker for £21 per school year (pro-rata), which is non-refundable and renewable each year via Secure Locker Rentals - www.locker.rentals
HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME	Absence from school can seriously disrupt a student's continuity of learning and so, in line with the recommendation of the Department for Education and the advice and guidance from the Local Authority, Barnwood Park will not authorise holidays in term time except in exceptional circumstances, at the Headteacher's discretion. Any holidays taken without approval will be deemed as unauthorised and should this exceed 10 sessions, referral will be made to the Education Welfare Service, who may issue a Penalty Notice of up to £120 per student, per parent.
STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE	If students arrive late to school they will be required to complete a 20 minute after school detention in the first instance. Parents will be notified of this. If lateness persists, or a student fails to attend the after school detention, parents will be contacted and further sanctions will apply.