



**BARCLAY
ACADEMY**
LIBERTAS PER CULTUM



INFORMATION BOOKLET

FOR ENTRY SEPTEMBER 2027



BARCLAY ACADEMY

Work Hard | Aim High | Be Respectful

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Thank you for considering Barclay Academy for your child. We are a thriving and ambitious school with a clear purpose: to ensure every student achieves their full potential and leaves us ready for a life filled with opportunity and choice. Guided by our belief in Freedom through Education, we hold the highest expectations for all our students because we care deeply about their futures.

Our knowledge-rich curriculum is delivered by subject experts and supported by strong pastoral care, so that every student feels valued, confident and ready to learn. Alongside this, our Education Enrichment programme offers a wealth of opportunities beyond the classroom, broadening horizons and nurturing new talents.

At Barclay Academy, every child, regardless of background or prior achievement, is given the opportunity to succeed. We are proud of the calm and supportive atmosphere we have created, our excellent Ofsted report, and the brilliant results our students achieve. Outcomes are consistently well above national averages, and our sixth form progress measures place us among the top 5% of schools nationally.

We warmly encourage you to visit us, meet our staff and students, and discover what makes Barclay Academy a place where young people can thrive.

Ms Scarlett O'Sullivan
Principal



EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

We are committed to providing every student with an excellent education built on high expectations and ambition. Our students are encouraged to work hard, think independently and push the boundaries of their potential.

At the heart of this commitment are our expert teachers. We are proud to have a dedicated team of professionals who are not only subject specialists but also lifelong learners themselves. Through high-quality professional development, both in-house and through our partnership with Future Academies, our staff continually refine their practice and stay at the forefront of educational excellence.



OFSTED 2023

“In Years 7 to 9, pupils are offered a full range of subjects.”

“Consistent classroom routines mean that pupils and students are required, and able, to focus on learning as soon as they arrive in lessons.”

“Leaders have an ambitious vision for the curriculum.”

OUR CURRICULUM

We believe that a first-class education should be a right rather than a privilege. Our motto, *Libertas per cultum* ("freedom through education"), reflects this. We know that the quality of education a child receives determines the number of choices they have in the future. The more choices our students have, the greater their freedom to determine their own path in life. Every member of staff in the school understands that their role is to ensure that our pupils leave us with as many options as possible to choose from.

Our curriculum is broad and academically ambitious, but we make sure that it is accessible to every child. We do this through careful planning, thoughtful adaptation, and expert delivery. We draw on the work of subject experts at the Future Academies Curriculum Centre, who are dedicated to designing sector-leading subject curricula and lesson resources. Our subject leads and class teachers then work together to tailor these resources to the needs of their pupils and support one another to make the curriculum come alive for pupils. This is backed by targeted interventions for those in need of further support.

Whilst we are immensely proud of our excellent examination results, we know that this is not the only measure of an excellent education. Our curriculum aims to develop the whole child. Character development is a crucial part of this. Our goal is to ensure that every student not only achieves academically but also grows personally. We place a strong emphasis on helping students build healthy relationships and understand how to look after their physical and mental wellbeing, all based around our core values of: Work Hard, Aim High, Be Respectful.

All students receive a comprehensive careers education and they leave us with the knowledge and skills that enable them to be an asset to society. Our extensive co-curricular programme works alongside this to give pupils the opportunity to develop cultural capital and to have rich experiences which will live on in their memories.

For further information about each of the wide range of academic subjects we offer in the different Key Stages, please see the [curriculum](#) page on our website.



OFSTED RESULT 2023

Barclay Academy received its first Ofsted inspection on 18th and 19th April 2023. A copy of the report can be found [here](#).

We were pleased to be judged as following:

Overall effectiveness: Good

The quality of education: Good

Behaviour and attitudes: Good

Personal Development: Outstanding

Leadership and management: Outstanding

Sixth-form provision: Good

OFSTED 2023

“A strong programme of intervention work supports those who struggle to read when they join the school. A whole-school approach to reading for pleasure and a range of enrichment activities around literature also positively promote the benefits of reading to all pupils and students.”

SPECIAL NEEDS PROVISION

The academy has excellent provision for students with Special Educational Needs (SEN). Our inclusive philosophy directs how this provision is organised to best meet the needs of students.

Inclusion Department

The academy has a dedicated inclusion department with specialist staff who are able to identify special educational needs at an early stage. Staff from the department focus on training and enabling teachers to meet the needs of students with SEN in mainstream lessons. Where necessary, they then provide specialist lessons or interventions which take place before school, during form-time or after school.

PASTORAL CARE

Student wellbeing is our highest priority at Barclay Academy. We have an extensive pastoral system in place to ensure that the personal, social and emotional needs of every student are met so that all students can thrive academically and socially.

The welfare of all our students is based on the understanding of shared values that extend through all areas of academy life. These are grounded in our values of work hard, aim high and be respectful. It is very important to us that our students feel safe, happy and have a sense of belonging from the very first day they enter the academy.

To ease transition from primary school we have transition specialists who work closely with our feeder primary schools to understand the needs of every student. In the summer before starting at Barclay Academy we invite students to spend a day with us to help familiarise them with the academy's ethos, layout and facilities.

At the start of Year 7 there is an induction period for students to learn the routines, appreciate the importance of our values, make friends and explore all that the academy has on offer. For some of our students there is a need for more intensive specialist support.

Knowing our students is fundamental to effective pastoral care. The support offered throughout transition continues throughout their time at Barclay. Dedicated Learning Coordinators, pastoral support leads and tutors work closely with the students and their families.

REWARDS

The House System at Barclay Academy is central to our provision of pastoral care. Each student joining the academy in Year 7 is assigned to a House that they will then belong to throughout their time at the academy.

The academy has four Houses – Apollo, Athena, Hera and Zeus. The tutors meet their students every day. The tutor also delivers academic advice and delivers comprehensive Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE). During this time, students are encouraged to ask questions and approach tutors with any concerns they may have. The amount of time that we dedicate to this allows tutors to provide personal attention and support to each of their students in a way not possible in most schools.



Praise is a fundamental part of what we do at Barclay and students have the opportunity, daily, to earn personal house points that also contribute to the overall house score. Bronze, Silver and Gold awards can be earned throughout the year.

Students may also be selected by their teachers for the Student of the Week award. Various other rewards are available for students to work toward throughout the year.



BARCLAY BADGE

The Barclay Badge initiative is a challenge set for our Year 7, 8, and 9 students. At Barclay, we value not only what students achieve in the classroom but also their personal development beyond it. To earn the Barclay Badge, students are encouraged to complete five key criteria that reflect our core values of working hard, aiming high and being respectful.

CHARACTER CURRICULUM

At Barclay Academy, our character curriculum underpins everything we do. Guided by our motto — Work Hard, Aim High, Be Respectful — we aim to develop students into true Barclavians, young people who embody the values and behaviours that prepare them for success in school and beyond.

The curriculum focuses on nine key characteristics: Respect, Tolerance, Kindness, Courage, Pride, Aspiration, Motivation, Resilience, and Confidence. These traits are taught explicitly through our character curriculum, but they are also embedded in daily practice across lessons, pastoral care, enrichment, and the wider school culture. Our goal is to ensure that every student not only achieves academically but also grows personally, leaving Barclay with the skills, values, and character to thrive in the next stage of their lives.

All Barclavians leave us with the foundations to thrive, empowered with choice and ready to contribute positively to society.



EDUCATION ENRICHMENT

Along with our knowledge-rich curriculum, Education Enrichment is seen as an important aspect of life at Barclay Academy. We believe that a strong provision is an essential part of giving our students both the knowledge and the capability to achieve excellence, regardless of their background or individual circumstances. Our wide range of enrichment opportunities allows every child to discover new passions, develop skills for life, and build confidence.



Barclay considers trips and aspirational visitors a key role in bringing subject learning to life. Some examples provided include:

- Visits to a wide range of museums and historical sites including the British Library, National History Museum and Hampton Court Palace.
- International residentials to Berlin, Rome, Spain, and WW1 Battlefields
- STEM opportunities including Science Research Centre's, University facilities, Whipsnade Zoo and The Science Museum
- Visits to the West End Theatres, renown art galleries and spectating elite sporting fixtures

Our wide range of lunchtime and after-school clubs gives every child the chance to explore new interests, develop talents and grow supportive social groups. From sports such as football, netball and athletics to creative opportunities in art, music, drama, and gardening, there is something to inspire everyone.

Connecting students to the world of work, future education, training and employment.

To enable our students to fulfil their potential and make informed decisions about their future, we provide a wide range of opportunities for our students to learn about, interact with and experience the world beyond. Some examples include:

- Visits to workplaces including technology companies, top law firms, investment banks etc.
- Workshops in schools delivered by top professional services firms and businesses
- Thriving careers networking events attended by colleges, apprenticeship providers and a broad range of employers
- High quality work experience placements at leading organisations in the students' area of interest
- Visits to the very best universities include meeting students and getting a taste for university style lectures and seminars



OFSTED 2023

“Provision for pupils’ personal development is exceptional.”

“Pupils are encouraged to give their views and to be physically and mentally resilient.”

OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE DAY

Extra-curricular and volunteering opportunities enrich the lives of all our students and, by complementing their academic studies, contribute to their broader development as well educated and well-rounded members of the community. We operate an extended day with library access and breakfast service from 8.00am and finishing with after-school homework support, intervention and a large range of sporting, musical, creative and academic clubs.

These include sporting, musical, creative and academic clubs that broaden students' experiences, expand their curiosity, and spark a range of interests and passions. Through the provision of these opportunities, students are strongly encouraged to try new things, live healthier lifestyles and get extra help with their schoolwork. The wide array of sporting opportunities on offer includes basketball, netball, table tennis, volleyball, rowing, gymnastics, rugby and football. Students can also choose to get involved in producing a school newspaper. Many students also complement their studies by joining academic clubs such as the Creative Writing, Drama, History, Latin, Music or Science Clubs or getting additional support with their GCSEs through regular subject drop-in sessions. We offer an instrumental lesson programme for students to have 1-2-1 lessons.



FUTURE ACADEMIES

Future Academies was established to improve the life chances of children through an education that is built on the importance of knowledge-rich teaching by subject experts and of raising the aspirations of all. Our family of schools has built a reputation for achieving the highest standards for all our students.

The name 'Future' is important to us because the education we provide today is designed to ensure all our children can achieve the best in their future lives. A knowledge-rich aspirational curriculum with a focus on cultural capital delivered by expert teachers is our *raison d'être*, and it is transforming the life chances of the children and young people in all our schools.

We are an inclusive community where all children are welcomed and challenged to be the best they can be. With the support of our sponsors, Future, we are able to engage with the best teachers, the best universities and a wide range of the most prominent employers in the country to ensure that all our children are equipped with the knowledge and desire to be the best in whatever path they wish to follow in their futures.



Thank you for your interest in Barclay Academy. We hope you enjoyed your visit.
If you have any further queries, please email: enquiries@barclay.futurecademies.org

Tours of the school are available from Monday 28th September to Thursday 22nd October. To book please complete the following [here](#).



OFSTED 2023

***“STUDENTS AT BARCLAY ACADEMY KNOW THAT THEY ATTEND
A SCHOOL WHERE EXPECTATIONS ARE HIGH FOR THEIR
ACHIEVEMENT AND THEIR BEHAVIOUR.”***