



The Birley Academy  
A L.E.A.D. Academy

# Year 6

## Key Information Booklet September 2022 Intake

Essential information for parents



The Birley Way



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Please contact [transition@BirleySecondaryAcademy.co.uk](mailto:transition@BirleySecondaryAcademy.co.uk) with any additional questions.



## Welcome from the Headteacher

I'm so delighted that you have decided to send your child to The Birley Academy.

Everyone who works here has the common purpose of education in its broadest sense, embodying our core values of Lead, Empower, Achieve, Drive. This is the start of a wonderful journey together as we support your child into flourishing and growing to be the best version of themselves that they can be. In this booklet you will find our vision and our promise which are the foundation of our work with all members of our school community. I promise that we will challenge and support your child as we challenge and support each other and model compassion and empathy too.

We hope that your child will make the most of every opportunity offered to them, in and out of the classroom. We hope they will display curiosity, and feel confident enough to try new things; learning about themselves and others in the process.

We know that being in the position to support the next generation is a privileged one that we do not take lightly.

I hope that you find this booklet useful, but please do not hesitate to contact us if we can help in any way. I look forward to meeting you all in September.

Gina Newton

Headteacher

# Home – Academy Partnership Agreement

This is about your rights as a Birley student, the rights of other members of the Academy and about your parents' support for your education at Birley.

## Your Personal Entitlement

As long as you are a student at Birley you are entitled to:

- teaching that encourages and enables you to reach the highest standard of achievement of which you are capable
- clear information from teachers about what skills you need to improve in order to advance your level of attainment
- an education which helps you to become a responsible effective young adult, able to make informed choices about your future
- treatment by other members of the Academy which shows respect for your personal dignity
- sensitive support from adults in dealing with harassment and bullying of all kinds
- request a confidential conversation with any adult in the Academy, and to be told with whom a confidence will be shared if the adult believes that you or another person may come to some harm
- discuss with the relevant adults anything which has got in the way of your rights as a student. If the outcome of this discussion is unsatisfactory, you are then entitled to advice from your tutor or a student support coordinator on how to pursue the matter.

## The Entitlement of the Academy Community

**Other members of the Academy are entitled to certain behaviour from you:**

- your support for a classroom atmosphere in which everyone can learn and achieve
- your support for an atmosphere outside the classroom in which people feel safe
- your respect for the personal dignity of others
- your willingness to tell a responsible adult about any bullying or harassment

## Commitment from Home

If you and your parents place your signatures at the end of this document, you will be making a statement about your personal commitment to the Academy. It will show that you and your parents intend to help Birley by;

- aiming for full attendance and punctuality
- trying your best to complete all class and homework tasks
- showing courtesy and consideration to others
- taking pride in the Academy and its community
- attending the Academy wearing the proper uniform
- bringing to the Academy the appropriate equipment for work
- being against all types of bullying, racism, sexism, ageism and other unacceptable prejudices.



# A Letter From The Birley Academy Ambassadors

Dear Year 6,

We would like to welcome you to The Birley Academy and in this letter, we would like to tell you about life at The Birley Academy and why we think it is a brilliant school to attend.

At The Birley Academy, everyone has high expectations for learning – the students take pride in their learning and this makes school a better place. As a school community, we work together to embrace our vision of LEAD, EMPOWER, ACHIEVE and DRIVE. The curriculum is broad and balanced across the school, which makes learning both fun and enjoyable.

As a Year 7, you will experience a range of new experiences in subjects like Technology and Food but also subjects you are familiar with such as Maths and English.

All staff at The Birley Academy are always on hand to help you there is always someone to support you at school if you need it from your Form Tutor to your Year Leader to your Head of Year. Every student has a team around them to support you and work with your class teachers to help ensure you get the best experience possible. During the COVID pandemic staff were in regular touch with us to check we were ok and support us with our online learning. The staff at school really care about our progress but also our wellbeing.

The food in the school canteen is good and it offers a wide range of hot food as well as cold food such as sandwiches and salads. We love the pizza and the cheese and ham paninis particularly! The Birley Academy offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities as part of our Birley Promise such as netball, football, university mentoring as well as opportunities to improve your CV when you're ready to move into the world of work. We also like the fact that you have the opportunity to become a school ambassador and join the school council which means you have the chance to shape the school experience.

At Birley, we offer multiple school trips inside and outside of the UK. These trips include opportunities to learn more about the areas and experience the culture as well as other fun activities. The most exciting trip for new students is the Year 7 residential, which has become a rite of passage for students at the Academy. We think that these trips are fabulous opportunities for any students that want to take part in them.

Finally, we love the fact that students at The Birley Academy are rewarded for showing the characteristics outlined in our vision. We have regular celebration evenings and rewards assemblies to mark students achievement combined with attendance initiatives.

We look forward to meeting you during your transition and when you start in September and we know you will love coming to The Birley Academy as much as we do.

We hope you have a lovely Summer and we look forward to welcoming you to the Academy in September.



The Birley Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

# Our Vision

## Lead

That means we:

- Make things happen
- Take opportunities
- Create improvement
- Are role models for others

## Empower

That means we:

- Teach
- Develop and challenge ourselves
- Support the development and challenge of others
- Work together
- Care for each other

## Achieve

That means we:

- Learn
- Are successful
- Set goals and reach them
- Leave a positive impression

## Drive

That means we:

- Show resilience
- Show resourcefulness



## Ready

This means:

- Having all necessary equipment - pen, pencil, ruler, pencil case, school bag, PE kit
- Wearing all correct uniform
- Being on time to school and lesson
- Entering classrooms sensibly and calmly
- Listening for instruction from the teacher or other adult

## Respectful

This means:

- No physical contact
- Being respectful to staff, students, visitors, school environment, school property and other people's property

## Responsible

This means:

- Owning your own behaviour
- Being responsible for your own actions and reactions
- Being responsible for your own learning
- Being responsible for your own achievement
- Being responsible for showing yourself and the academy in the best way possible

**Ready. Respectful. Responsible.**



**The Birley Academy**  
A L.E.A.D. Academy



The Birley Academy

# The Birley Promise

**We promise you will have the chance to go on:**

- Visits abroad
- Outdoor pursuits
- Residential visits
- Field work
- Visit to London
- Theatre visits
- Cinema visits
- Museum visits

**We promise you can get involved in:**

- Student council
- Student ambassadors
- Youth Parliament
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Charity fund raising
- Sports Leaders' Award Scheme

**We promise you can do:**

- Productions
- Performances
- Lunch time and after school clubs
- Tuition in a musical instrument
- Extra-curricular sport

**We promise you can access:**

- Independent careers' advice
- Links with universities
- Extended transition to support the move from Y6 to Y7
- The chance to celebrate success
- Revision classes
- Evening classes
- College taster days
- Work experience
- High Quality and aspirational education inside and outside the classroom



## In the Classroom...

- Walk in quietly and sit in your assigned seat
- Put your coats on the back of your chairs or on the coat hooks provided
- Put your bags under your desk or where your teacher asks you to put them
- Hand your pass (if you have one) to the teacher
- Get out all the equipment you may need for the lesson including your planner and rewards card
- Begin your engagement activity
- Try your hardest to complete your best work
- Always demonstrate your best behaviour
- Remain seated unless your teacher instructs you to move
- Show a good attitude to learning
- Pack up your equipment quickly and quietly
- Stand behind your chairs in silence
- Walk out of the room when your teacher dismisses you
- No coats
- Ask permission before taking off blazer

**Ready. Respectful. Responsible.**



**The Birley Academy**  
A L.E.A.D. Academy

# A good attitude to learning means:



Be punctual and equipped



Have positive body language



Listen attentively



Focus on the learning



Be part of the lesson



Take pride in your work





# Homework

## Year 7 – Establishing the habit

The curriculum is broad and balanced at The Birley Academy and is sequenced in a way to ensure the knowledge and skills students require is well taught and assessed.

We have had a parent consultation about homework and the consensus was that Y7 students should focus on reinforcing the core knowledge in English, Maths and Science before moving to on to broader subjects in Y8. This allows homework to be meaningful and manageable.

Therefore, Y7 homework will look like this:

Students in year 7 will have homework which mainly focuses on Maths, English and Science. These are mainly set on line using SPARX for maths, SENECA for science and EDUCAKE for English.

Other subjects may opt to set homework. Students will be rewarded for its completion. High quality homework is always rewarded.



## Presentation matters, so:

- put a title and date on your work
- write only in **blue** or black pen
- use your best handwriting
- use a **red** pen to respond to feedback
- draw diagrams, pictures, graphs, tables and maps in pencil
- use a ruler for drawing lines and underlining
- put a single line through a mistake
- do not graffiti or scribble
- do not tear pages out of your book
- do not leave empty spaces or pages blank
- secure loose sheets neatly either with glue or a treasury tag

*"Words are the dress of thoughts; which should no more be presented in rags, tatters, and dirt than your person should."* Lord Chesterfield



# Keeping Children Safe

at

## The Birley Academy

*Are you concerned about a child in school?*

*Are you worried about a friend?*

If you have any safeguarding concerns about someone at The Birley Academy,

# TELL SOMEONE!

You can tell any adult in school if you have any worries, we are all

## HERE TO HELP

If you have urgent concerns about the safety of a child at The Birley Academy, you must go and tell one of the people below immediately:



Mr Jones  
Deputy Head



Miss Clark  
Assistant Head



Miss Abbott  
Safeguarding Officer

[www.birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk](http://www.birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk)



# Keeping Children Safe

at

**The Birley Academy**

If you have any safeguarding concerns about someone at The Birley Academy,

## During School Closure

Safeguarding concerns can be reported even when the school is closed.

During the School Holidays, please call the

**Sheffield Safeguarding Hub**

**0114 273 4855**



Mr Jones  
Deputy Head



Miss Clark  
Assistant Head



Miss Abbott  
Safeguarding Officer

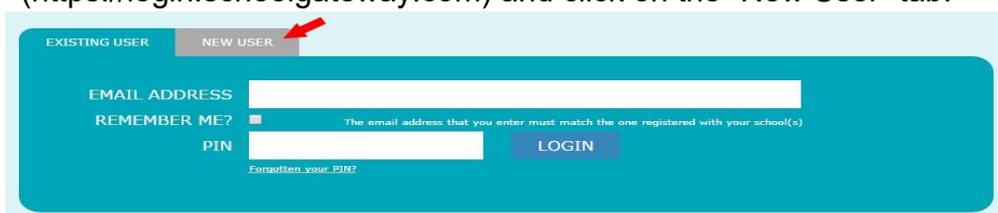


# Creating an Account on SchoolComms

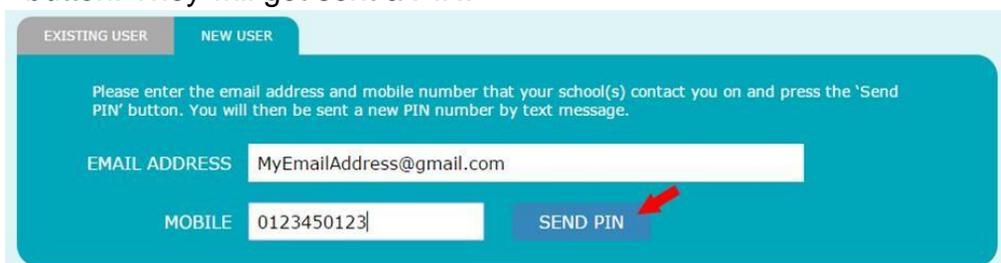
SchoolComms enables parents to pay for school dinner and other activities such as trips.

SchoolComms guidance – how parents can access the SchoolGateway

To log in, parents need to go to the School Gateway Login (<https://login.schoolgateway.com>) and click on the “New User” tab:



They need to enter their email and mobile number, then click the “Send Pin” button. They will get sent a PIN:



Once they receive their PIN, they need to go back to the “Existing User” tab. Here they can use their email address and newly acquired PIN to login.

They can also download the app from Google Play for Android or the App Store for Apple devices. They can simply search for School Gateway and it should be the first result.

If parents have trouble logging in then it may be because you (the school) don't have their current email address and mobile phone number on record. Parents should contact you if they have any issues so you can update the details on your system.

# Using the Go 4 Schools App

At The Birley Academy we use a system called Go 4 Schools to share information with parents. As a parent or guardian you will be able to use it for:

- Monitoring your child's academic progress
- Monitoring your child's achievement and behaviour points
- Viewing your child's timetable
- Viewing your child's attendance and punctuality
- Receiving notification of detentions
- Receiving attendance messages

Once your child starts you will be able to access all the above features through the website. There is also the option of downloading the app version on your mobile or tablet device. This will give you the headlines of any event and more detail would be available through the website. More details will be sent about how to sign up to Go 4 Schools in September.



2022 (Current Year 9), 2021 (Year 8), 2020 (Year 7)

[Today's timetable](#), [detailed progress](#), [attendance](#), [behaviour](#), [progress and reports](#)

At a glance <span>🔍</span>	
Attendance	100.00%
Registration group	9A (Mr B Adams)
Behaviour ranking	3 out of 226 students
Positive behaviour points	20

[View full profile](#)

## Today's timetable

Tu	09:00	10:00	10:00	11:00	11:15	12:15	12:15	13:45	13:45	14:45	14:45	15:45
	English 9y/En1 Mr A Hulme	✓	Science 9y/Sc2 Mr I Gaunt	✓	History 9y/Hi2 Mrs F Hayward	✓	PSHE 9y/Ps2 Mrs N Middleton		Core PE 9y/Pe3 Mr K Cronin			

[View full timetable](#)



# The Super Curriculum at The Birley Academy

THE GENERAL OFFER	
YEAR 11	Discover Us (University links)
YEAR 10	The Sports Leader Award The Duke of Edinburgh Award The Brilliant Club Discover Us (University links) The University of Sheffield in School Mentoring Programme
YEAR 9	Discover Us (University links) The University of Sheffield in School Mentoring Programme HEPP – University Advice The Brilliant Club Big Bang show
YEAR 8	Impact (University links for students and parents) The Brilliant Club
YEAR 7	Impact (University links for students and parents) Know your stuff lectures
YEAR 6	Transition Week (July)

# The Super Curriculum at The Birley Academy

THE CURRICULUM OFFER	
<b>English</b>	Theatre Trip
<b>Maths</b>	Maths Challenge
<b>Science</b>	The Science Club (Year 7) Girls in STEM (Year 10)
<b>MFL</b>	Showroom cinema Visits (Year 7-9) Year 7 MFL Trip
<b>Music</b>	The Performing Arts Company (all years) Meet a Musician – Halle Orchestra Trip
<b>Art</b>	Gallery Visits (Year 10)
<b>Geography</b>	Castleton Visit – Mam Tor (Year 8) GCSE Geography field trips (Years 10 +11)
<b>PE</b>	Junior Sports Leader Award (Years 9 +10)
<b>History</b>	WW1 Battlefields trip in conjunction with the MFL department (Years 8 – 10)
<b>Inclusion Team</b>	SEND Homework Club
<b>DT</b>	Good Food show

# Rewards

**All staff at the Academy recognise the value and importance of rewarding students for the positive behaviours they demonstrate.**

## **Reward Points**

Students will receive reward points to celebrate their hard work and success both in and out of lessons.

## **Reward points are issued under the following criteria:**

When students demonstrate our vision (Lead, Empower, Achieve and Drive), contribute to the wider school community and when they go above and beyond in their efforts they are rewarded. Students automatically receive 5 reward points for every week where they have 100% attendance. Students are also recognised for brilliance in particular subjects.

## **Postcards**

Students may receive a postcard sent directly to their home when they have achieved something exceptional

## **Certificates**

Students receive a certificate for an allocated number of house points achieved. Each certificate is presented to students in assembly.

## **House Points Totals and Level of Reward**

- 100 Bronze Achievement Certificate
- 200 Silver Achievement Certificate
- 300 Gold Achievement Certificate
- 400 Platinum Achievement Certificate
- 500 500 Club Achievement Certificate – Entry into The Birley Academy Hall of Fame.

## **Celebration Evenings**

During each term there will be a celebration evening for students who have been nominated by staff and departments. Parents are invited into the Academy to celebrate the success together with the students and staff. Students will be awarded badges and certificates for the following categories: Lead, Empower, Achieve, Drive, The Year Leader Award, 100% Attendance and The Leadership Team Award. We also look to acknowledge brilliance in individual subjects on these evenings.

# Rewards Badges

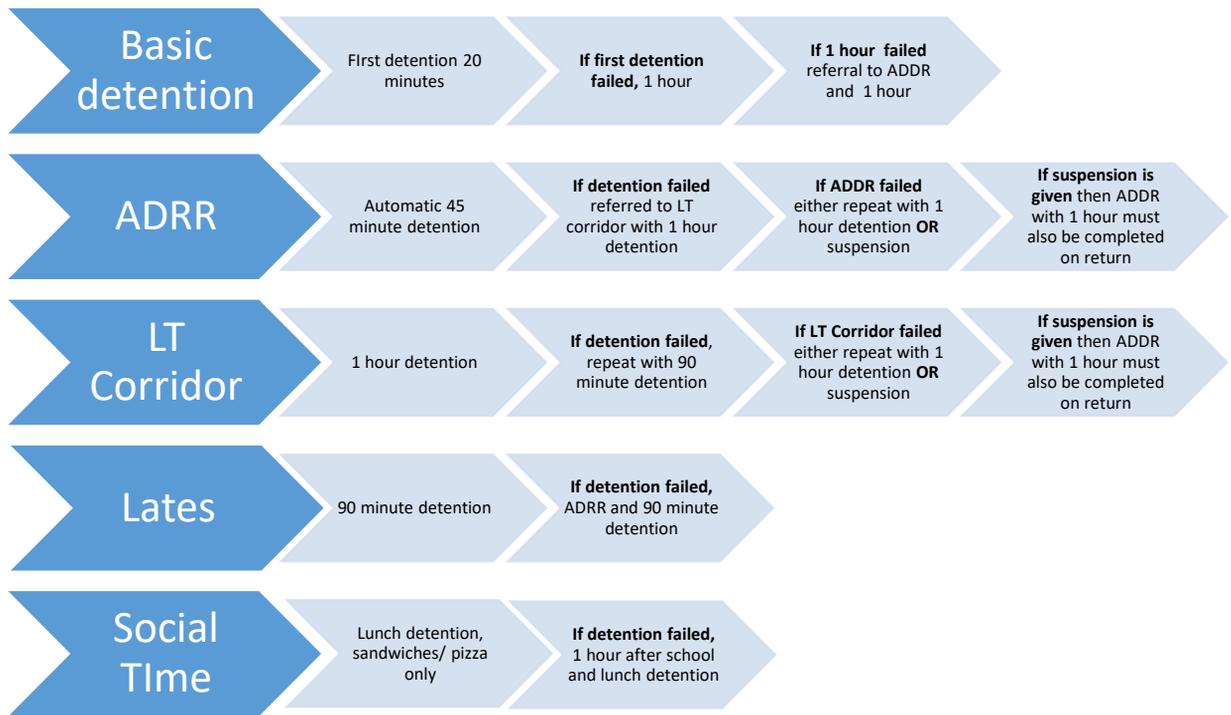
As part of our rewards system if you win an award at one of our celebration evenings you may be issued with one of the badges shown below. The aim is to collect all of these by badges by the time you leave The Birley Academy in Year 11.

	<b>Outstanding Leadership</b>
	<b>The Empowerment Award</b>
	<b>Outstanding Achievement</b>
	<b>Outstanding Effort (Drive)</b>
	<b>The Year Leader Award</b>
	<b>The Leadership Team Award</b>
	<b>100% Attendance</b>
	<b>School Representation Badge</b>

# Detentions

If a student does not uphold the high standards of behaviour expected at The Birley Academy they may be issued with a detention.

- If a student is issued a detention they must attend
- If a student does not attend a detention then there will be escalation
- Lunchtime detentions **will not** be offered as an alternative
- A student will not be able to attend an after school club or match if they have a detention



# Student Leadership Badges

At The Birley Academy we offer all of our students the opportunity to take up a leadership role. Students who regularly take part in these activities are issued with a badge to identify their role. They are also regularly rewarded through bonus house points and celebration breakfasts.

Badge	Role
	Student ambassador – front of house at school events, tours of school during interviews, take part in student voice activities with external visitors.
	Sports Captain – Regularly captain academy sports team.
	Sports Leader – Completed the Junior Sports Leader Award and regularly takes a leadership in primary sports events.
	Performing Arts Leader – regularly takes assumes the leadership role in the Performing Arts Club. This will include writing scripts, directing, choreography as well as performing.
	Performing Arts Ambassador – regularly attends and takes part in the Performing Arts Club as well taking part in the academy productions.
	Student Council – For members of the Student Council



# Equipment

- Strong waterproof bag
- Planner\*
- Pencil case
- Black Pens
- Red Pens
- A spare pen or spare cartridges if you have a fountain pen
- Two pencils
- Pencil sharpener
- A 30cm ruler
- A rubber
- A compass
- A calculator preferably a scientific calculator as Casio FX83GT Plus or similar
- A protractor
- A set of coloured pencils

## Suggested list of equipment available at home

- English Dictionary
- Thesaurus
- French Dictionary
- Maths Dictionary
- A glue stick
- A pair of scissors
- Art sketchbook

\*Each child receives a planner on their first day at the Academy. If a student loses or defaces their planner, replacement planners are available to order via Schoolcomms.

# The Birley Desk

Every form time and every lesson we expect to see **the Birley desk**

The Birley desk is having equipment ready for learning:

This includes:

- A planner (which school will provide you with in September)
- A pencil case /black pen/ red pen/ruler/pencil/rubber/calculator
- A rewards card

All equipment should be placed neatly at the front of your desks

Failure to have this equipment will result in consequences.



## The Birley Academy Rewards Card

### Rewards Cards

Every form time and lesson you will place your rewards card on your Birley desk.

If you are outstanding in the LEAD vision (Lead, Empower, Achieve, Drive) your teacher will issue you with a point!

Teachers will circle what you have achieved and sign it.

The rewards card must be placed in your blazer pocket because you can get points during social times and extra curricular clubs.

Once you have collected 20 points your card must be given to your form tutor and they will add on 20 points onto Go4schools.

They will then issue you with a new card.

The Birley Academy Rewards Card			
Name:		Form:	
Subject	Reward (Circle/ Highlight) Lead Empower Achieve Drive	Teacher Signature	
	L E A D		
	L E A D		
	L E A D		
	L E A D		
	L E A D		
	L E A D		
	L E A D		
	L E A D		
	L E A D		
	L E A D		



**The use of mobile phones, earphones and other electronic devices is specifically forbidden. If staff become aware of any of these, even if not in use, the item will be confiscated.**

**Keep it switched off and out of sight at all times.**

# Uniform

## Compulsory Academy Uniform

The Academy has strict guidelines on dress. All pupils are expected to wear the full Academy uniform, including when travelling to and from the Academy. Parents are strongly advised to ensure they supervise the purchase of school uniform and, where unsure as to the suitability of an item, they contact the Academy in advance.

### Our uniform comprises of:

- Plain long or short sleeved shirt – white.
- Plain trousers or skirt – black. Jeans and cords are not allowed, skirts should be no shorter than knee length. All items should allow for shirts to be properly tucked in and must not be tight-fitting. Trousers must reach the top of shoes.
- Academy tie.
- Academy blazer – grey.
- Plain, sensible black shoes. Footwear must be leather or leather look with flat soles – no trainers, boots, pumps or canvas shoes will be allowed. High heeled shoes are unsuitable and dangerous on our school sites.
- Navy blue V neck jumper with LEAD logo- sleeves need to be at full length. **In a change from previous years non regulation jumpers or hoodies will be confiscated – only the academy jumper is acceptable.**

### Shirts, Jumpers and Blazers

- Blazers must be worn with sleeves down
- Sleeves on shirts, jumpers or blazers must not be rolled up at any time.
- Shirts must be tucked in.
- Only badges issued by the academy may be worn on jackets. Other badges, e.g. Charity badges, must only be on outdoor coats or bags.

### Shoes

Shoes must be formal – in a change to previous years leather Converse, Adidas Gazelles, Nike Air Force One and similar footwear **are strictly not allowed**. Footwear must be plain black leather or leather look with flat soles - no trainers, boots, pumps or canvas shoes will be allowed. High heeled shoes are unsuitable and dangerous on our school site.



**NB- if students are not wearing the correct uniform they will be expected to go home and change. Consequences will be put in place for repeated breaches of the policy.**

### **Outdoor Coats**

Outdoor coats should be plain and should have no large logos. Please note, fur, denim and studded leather jackets are not allowed. Outdoor coats should be removed at the entrance of the Academy building, as outdoor wear is not permitted indoors. Hoodies must not be worn under or over blazers.

### **Bag**

Students require a school bag which can fit in an Academy planner and A4 workbooks.

### **Compulsory PE Uniform**

- Academy PE top
- Academy reversible games top (recommended for winter sports)
- Plain navy blue knee length games socks
- White sports socks for indoor use
- Indoor trainers – Non-marking sole with laces, providing support to ankle & foot
- Outdoor trainers – Suitable for on grass use. E.g. Football boots or Astro Turf shoes.
- Gum shield for rugby (will be informed when necessary for other sports)
- Shin pads for football

### **Jewellery, Make up and Hair styles**

- Jewellery is not allowed, except for one pair of small, plain silver ear studs. Ear rings, rings, nose studs or other piercings/jewellery are not acceptable.
- Fake nails and excessive make up is not allowed for students in Y7-11. Nails must be short and natural looking. Long nails are a health and safety concern when students are taking part in subjects such as PE, Design and Technology and Science.
- Hair styles which are considered 'excessive' will not be allowed at the Academy. Hair must be of natural colour and must not be dyed. Pupils are not allowed 'cuts', shapes or designs.





## Uniform Purchasing

The blazer, tie and jumper must be official as must the PE top. Pinders Schoolwear are our stockist at Crystal Peaks Marketplace. Their website is <https://pindersschoolwear.com/schools/248/BirleyAcademy>. Other parts of the uniform may be purchased from other suppliers as long as they conform to the styles and standards of those pictured on the website.

## Examples of Appropriate Footwear



# Key Dates

## Term Dates 2022-2023

All Dates are inclusive

Autumn Term 1: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September until Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Autumn Term 2: Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October until Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Spring Term 1: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Spring Term 2: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February until Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Summer Term 1: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Summer Term 2: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June until Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

## Inset Days

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

# The School Day

Students are expected on site by 8:30am to be lined up in their year groups at 8:35am. For year 7, 8 and 9 students the day finishes at 2:35pm.

8:35am	8:40	9:00	10:00	11:00	11:15	12:15	12:45	13:45
Line up	Tutor time	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5

## Tutor Time Programme

Students attend tutor time every morning. This is an opportunity to meet with their form tutor and discuss any concerns. Usually their tutor will stay with them throughout their time at the Academy.

The tutor time programme includes time for reading and a weekly quiz. Students will also attend an assembly once a week which give an opportunity to celebrate achievement, welcome outside speakers and focus on issues such as citizenship, politics, mental health and world news.

## Dining and Food Information

At The Birley Academy we provide an excellent catering service to pupils and staff, offering a healthy choice of foods, including a full hot food selection, pasta bar, wraps and sandwiches. For many students lunch is the main meal of their day. Meal time should be relaxed and calm whilst also providing all the ingredients necessary to assist with pupils' concentration and learning. Students can sit in the dining areas or go outside. They are not allowed to go into areas where lessons are still taking place.

# Curriculum

At Birley we aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to enable all of our students to achieve his/her potential. The purpose of our curriculum is to develop the knowledge and skills that will allow students to thrive in life beyond the academy. We value the role of academic and vocational qualifications. We are an inclusive school and we believe all students should have an entitlement to take academic and vocational subjects and qualifications.

Our curriculum is designed and coordinated by Curriculum Leaders through close work with the school Leadership Team. Each curriculum area will meet the objectives and requirements of the national curriculum. Each curriculum area will foster a keen interest in and understanding of their specific subjects. Our goal is to share with students a passion and expertise in every area of study.

In summary the Academy's intent is to ensure that the curriculum:

- Broadens student's aspirations and opens their minds
- Offers an ambitious programme of study by providing essential knowledge in each subject area
- Helps students make a positive contribution to society as active citizens
- Equips students with the knowledge, skills and qualifications needed to progress further
- Prepares students for the world of work

## **KS3**

The KS3 curriculum runs from Y7-Y9 and focuses on the development of the skills and knowledge required at KS4 and beyond. Students will learn the core curriculum of Maths, English and Science. They will also have the opportunity to experience and master subjects drawn from a wide range of specialisms, such as performing arts, PSHE and religious studies. In addition, through assemblies students will develop their wider knowledge. Further, the tutor-time curriculum compliments the wider curriculum in embedding key learning skills into student's daily routine

The KS3 curriculum is designed and coordinated by Curriculum Leaders and their teams. It is managed to ensure that key knowledge / topics are delivered; that relevant assessments are provided; that accurate and helpful feedback is given. Through this process, over the three years, students are in a strong position to make choices around the pathways available at KS4.

# Curriculum

## KS4

The KS4 curriculum is broad - offering a wide range of GCSE (and equivalent) subjects in order to suit individual interests, passions and life choices. As well as adhering to statutory Progress 8 requirements, the curriculum at KS4 emphasises work experience, PSHE and preparation with college/job interviews to give our young people the best start in life beyond the Academy possible.

All students will study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science (combined or separate). In addition their pathway choices will include the study of humanities (Geography/History) and/or MFL. To develop a wide range of skills and knowledge students will also be able to choose from the following subjects:

- Food
- Graphics
- Resistant materials
- PE / Sport
- Engineering
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Health and Social Care
- Art
- Religious Studies
- Travel and Tourism
- i-media

In addition, to the qualifications on offer, the curriculum at Birley is also intended to ensure students can navigate the challenges of life in a complex world with confidence and support. Therefore, a weekly session of PSHE is offered to give students support with work experience, college applications, emotional well-being, British values, diversity and equality and mental health.

# Social Media

Please find below a list of all the social media accounts which are held by The Birley Academy. In order to keep up to date with all of our good news, the outstanding achievements and activities our students take part in we would like to invite you to follow us on Twitter and Instagram.

As well as these accounts in response to parental requests we have now introduced our very own Facebook page. This page is called The Official Birley Academy Group. In order to access this group please request to join the group stating the name(s) of your child/children and their school year. Once we accept your request you will be able to see all our posts which will keep you up to date with life at The Birley Academy.

The Birley Academy  
A LEAD Academy

*Follow life at  
The Birley Academy ....*

- The Official Birley Academy Group
- @birleyacademy
- @birleyhead
- @birleydeputy
- @BirleyCC\_PE
- @BirleyCC\_Sci
- @brilliantbirley
- @BSendco
- @BirleyPARTs
- Birley\_Academy\_Art\_Stars
- the\_birley\_maths

**#WHAT MAKES BIRLEY SPECIAL**

# E-Safety

Children and young people spend a lot of time on-line, it can be a great way for them to socialise, explore and have fun. However, when using the online world, children do also face risks such as cyberbullying or seeing content that is inappropriate. Misuse can also result in friendship issues.

At The Birley Academy, we teach children to use the internet and technology safely through the curriculum and assemblies. All pupils are given advice and information is shared on who they can go to if there is a problem with anything they do on-line. Posters are displayed in all classrooms and the main corridor safeguarding notice board to support pupils with keeping themselves safe. Further advice and guidance can be seen on the CEOP website or Sheffield Safeguarding website.

Understanding what children do online and the risks they face will help keep your child safe on-line. Children and young people go on-line to connect with friends and make new ones, to browse the internet for information, chat with others and play games. They may:

- search for information or content on search engines like Google and Bing
- share images and watch videos through websites or mobile apps like YouTube, Tik Tok and Snapchat
- use social networking websites such as Facebook and Twitter and Instagram
- write or reply to messages on forums and message boards
- play games alone or with others through websites, apps or game consoles
- chat with other people through online games, game consoles, webcams, social networks and tools like WhatsApp and Facebook messenger.

## **Please help us to share the message with pupils:**

- to keep passwords safe and not share them
- make sure privacy settings on social media such as Facebook are set to private not public and check this regularly
- do not share personal information on-line
- do not accept friend requests from strangers and NEVER arrange to meet someone you have met on line without discussing this first with your parents
- tell an adult if anything they see on-line makes them feel uncomfortable, scared or threatened
- do not write anything on social media or by text that is unpleasant. We take peer on peer bullying very seriously and this often occurs by on-line means
- never send or share images of a sexual nature or images that may humiliate or harm others
- remember to report any worrying behaviour to an adult, one of the school's Safeguarding Leads or using the CEOP button on our website.

## **National Online safety**

NOS have produced a series of free online safety guides for parents. They cover things like MOMO, Fortnite, Instagram, KIK, Roblox, Snapchat, sexting, Twitch, Youtube, TIK TOK etc.



The Birley Academy



## Supporting Students Every Day

At the Birley Academy every student has access to the following support when required:

- A dedicated Form Tutor
- A dedicated Year Leader
- A dedicated Progress Leader
- A dedicated Social, Emotional & Mental Health Key Worker
- A dedicated SENCO and SEND department
- Weekly PSHE lessons
- Careers advice
- The Student Council
- 1:1 intervention and mentoring
- Personalised support packages



# Team Around Your Child Document

In September, parents will receive a document like this. It will give an overview of all key individuals who will work with their child in year 7.

This will contain email address and help you to get in contact with key staff throughout the school year.



The Birley Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

## THE TEAM AROUND YOUR CHILD

Head of Year

Educational Welfare  
Officer

Deputy Head of Year



Leadership team link

SENDCo

Safeguarding team