



# **Welcome to Friern Barnet School**



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Dear Parents/Carers

The move from primary school to Friern Barnet School is always a very exciting and significant time in the life of any young person. It is an important milestone, marking a change in expectations regarding crucial life skills such as independent working and self-organisation. It can also be an anxious time; children have understandable concerns such as making new friends, being able to do the work or getting to school and back. Fortunately, most children settle quickly into a successful secondary school life.

A successful transition depends on strong partnerships the school has with parents. Your role is crucial in ensuring that your child becomes a successful, confident and independent young person, fully prepared for the competitive, dynamic and global workplace of the 21st century.

Having a positive attitude to learning, 'aiming high' and working hard in the areas of class work, home learning and independent learning are important. Encourage your child, show interest in their work, share their successes and work closely with the school throughout his or her school career.

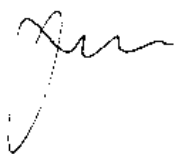
We are very proud of our school and the achievements of our students. We think the school is very distinctive, innovative and able to offer an excellent broad and balanced curriculum. There are many opportunities to see this for yourself at parents' evenings, creative arts events, sporting and other events throughout the year.

At Friern Barnet School we encourage our students academically, ensuring that they secure the results to go on to some of the best universities and on to fulfilling careers. We also want them to live lives, which are personally and socially fulfilling. We also want them to develop a love for art, music, dance, theatre and culture, which will enrich the whole of their lives.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes to you and your child for every success at Friern Barnet School.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Robinson', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Robinson  
Assistant Head Teacher

## Term Dates 2025.26

<b>Autumn term</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Staff Development Day	Monday 1 September
<b>First term</b>	<b>Tuesday 2 September – Wednesday 22 October</b>
Staff Development Days	Thursday 23 and Friday 24 October
<i>Half term</i>	<i>Monday 27 October - Friday 31 October</i>
<b>Second term</b>	<b>Monday 3 November - Friday 19 December</b>
<i>School holiday</i>	<i>Monday 22 December - Friday 2 January</i>

<b>Spring Term</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Staff Development Day	5 January
<b>First term</b>	<b>Tuesday 6 January - Friday 13 February</b>
<i>Half term</i>	<i>Monday 16 February - Friday 20 February</i>
<b>Second term</b>	<b>Monday 23 February - Friday 27 March</b>
<i>School holiday</i>	<i>Monday 30 March - Friday 10 April (Easter weekend 3 - 6 April)</i>

<b>Summer Term</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<b>First term</b>	<b>Monday 13 April - Friday 22 May</b> <i>May Day Bank Holiday on 4 May</i>
Half term	<i>Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May Spring Bank Holiday will be taken on 25 May</i>
<b>Second term</b>	<b>Monday 1 June – Friday 17 July</b>
Staff Development Day	Monday 20 July

## Structure of the school day for Year 7

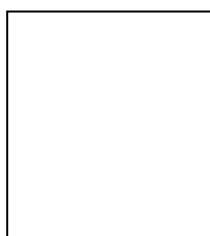
Students should arrive at school by 8:30am ready for registration at 8:40am.

08:40	to	09:00	Registration
09:00	to	10:00	Period 1
10:00	to	11:00	Period 2
11:00	to	11:20	Break
11:20	to	12:20	Period 3
12:20	to	12:55	Lunch
12:55	to	13:55	Period 4
13:55	to	14:55	Period 5
14.55	to	15.05	Registration

## Year 7 Team



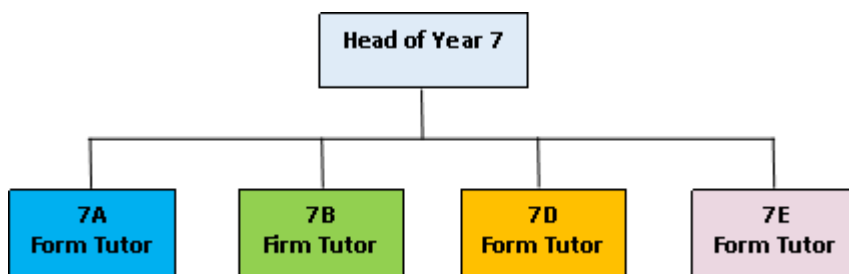
Mr J Robinson  
Assistant Head Teacher



Head of Year 7



Ms C Mordecai  
Pastoral Support Manager



Dedicated Form Tutors, who will gain an in depth knowledge of your child, will usually be your first point of contact and if necessary, will pass on the message to the relevant member of staff.

Form Tutors will contact you to praise your son/daughter or if there are any issues that need addressing.

**Subject Tutors or Heads of Faculty may contact you regarding your child's progress and behaviour. Please contact them directly should you have a subject specific concern.**

### Learning Support

Our Learning Support department would like to welcome you to Friern Barnet School. If you need any support, please email [j.depala@friern.barnet.sch.uk](mailto:j.depala@friern.barnet.sch.uk)



Ms D Anand  
SENDCo (Maternity Cover)



Miss K Keaveney  
Assistant SENDCo



Ms J Depala  
Administrator

We have a dedicated team of Teaching Assistants who help support our students and their needs. Further information can be found on our website: [SEND at Friern Barnet School \(padlet.com\)](https://www.friernbarnet.sch.uk/padlet)

# **Uniform**

## **Indoor Wear**

**Blazer\* (optional)**

**School Tie\* (optional)**

Trousers

Skirt

Shirt/blouse

Polo shirt

**V-Neck Pullover/Cardigan\***

Socks (or tights)

Shoes

Outdoor coat

**Navy blue (with school blazer badge)**

**Conventional**

Tailored in either grey or black

Navy blue (knee length)

White, polyester/cotton

Plain white

**Navy blue (with FBS crest)**

Grey, black or navy

Flat black shoes

**Please note: no hoodies or sweatshirts are to be worn.**

## **Sportswear**

**Sports Shirt\***

**School Fleece\***

Jogging Bottoms

Sports Socks

Trainers

Shorts

Football Boots

**Plain black (with FBS crest)**

**Plain black (with FBS crest)**

Plain black

(no shorts or cycling shorts)

Black

Non-floor marking

Plain black

(optional)

## **Dance**

**Sports Shirt\***

Jogging Bottoms

**Plain black (with FBS crest)**

Plain black

(no shorts or cycling shorts)

## **Designated Uniform Suppliers**

***\*All items in bold print should be purchased through one of our designated uniform suppliers:***

**Braggs**

Visit the store at:

341 Ballards Lane

North Finchley

N12 8LJ

Tel: 020 8445 3945

<http://www.braggsschoolwear.co.uk/>

**Uniform Shop Online**

Order online at:

<https://uniformshoponline.co.uk/collections/friern-barnet-school>

## General Notes

- All uniform should be named.
- Full uniform is to be worn to and from school. We expect students to remove any outdoor wear, including scarves, hats, gloves etc. when they enter a classroom.
- We expect students to have a weatherproof coat when necessary. We do not accept hoodies, tracksuit tops or sweatshirts as an alternative. We will ask students to remove these at the school gates.
- The changing rooms are used for PE and dance lessons. This means students should not wear their PE kit to school; this includes trainers.
- Headscarves, if worn, should be plain white, navy or black.
- We only accept minimal makeup - no nail varnish, no fake eye lashes and no acrylic nail extensions.
- Jewellery can be a safety problem in practical lessons and around school. We allow one pair of ear studs and one nose stud. This means no hoops or rings. All jewellery must be removed for PE lessons.





## **Learning and the Year 7 Curriculum**

At Friern Barnet School, students will be given an exciting, broad and balanced curriculum encompassing a wide range of subjects including those from the arts. Throughout KS3 the curriculum is centred round the development of the skills the students need to be able to achieve at GCSE.

We encourage all students:

- To develop lively, enquiring, independent and imaginative minds, able to question and debate rationally and appreciate alternative points of view
- To become confident and self-critical and able to develop their individual talents to the full
- To increase initiative and self-discipline in application to tasks, working alone and with others
- To develop personal and moral values and contribute to the achievement of equal opportunities for all
- To become positive, co-operating and contributing members of school and society, prepared to initiate and take responsibility for themselves and others
- To understand the world in which we live and the inter-dependence of individuals, groups and nations
- To develop an awareness of environmental issues

For detailed information on each subject, please refer to the school website

<http://www.friern.barnet.sch.uk/curriculum>





## **Home Learning**

Home learning is an important part of the school curriculum for all students. It allows work covered in school to be reinforced or extended. It is not a punishment, but a chance to improve knowledge and skills.

School and home need to work particularly closely in this area to provide a supportive, structured framework, within which students can find success.

Some ideas about how we do this are outlined below:

- Set a regular, reasonable amount of home learning
- Provide each student with a Firefly account (our virtual learning platform) which will have details of his or her timetable as well as the home learning that has been set. Teachers can check the home learning has been done using Firefly. Parents and students can download a free app for Firefly which will allow you to see timetables and home learning
- Mark home learning and provide feedback to students
- Let parents know if home learning is not being done

### **What you can do:**

- Provide a comfortable, quiet area for home learning to be done, with a desk/table on which to work
- With your child put aside/plan a set time for home learning – avoid a rushed approach from the student
- Monitor home learning being done – take an interest, discuss work, offer help and advice when needed. It may be useful to allow your child to do home learning with friends occasionally
- Inform your child's Form Tutor if too much (more than one hour) or too little (less than 40 minutes) home learning is being set/done daily



## **Provision for Most Able Students**

### **Aims:**

- Ensure that all students receive an education appropriate to their abilities
- Provide teaching which makes learning challenging and enjoyable
- Provide opportunities for higher order thinking and development of questioning skills
- Stimulate students through extra-curricular and enrichment activities
- Support the abilities, personal qualities and talents of all children
- Employ a wide variety of methods of recognition of potential
- Ensure that the curriculum meets the needs of the most able and offers opportunity for all

### **What we do in school:**

- Subject teachers deliver lessons that stretch and challenge our most able learners
- Deliver motivational assemblies to support the achievement of most able students
- Provide mentoring opportunities
- Ensure enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities are offered by all faculties across the school

## **Learning Resource Centre (LRC)**

Every student is a member of the LRC and is welcome to use it for reading, home learning and computer use.

Fiction books are available to loan from the LRC for up to 1 week at a time.

Magazines are available to read in the LRC but may not be taken out.

After school clubs for subjects are also available and further details are advertised in the LRC and in the newsletter.



## **Reading**

Being able to read and understand written material is vital if students are to have complete access to all areas of the curriculum. Any support or practice which can be provided at home to improve your child's reading skills will be valuable.

### **What you can do:**

- Encourage your child to read for 20 minutes a day, and listen to them read
- Have books, newspapers and magazines at home which are suitable for your child to read
- Discuss with your child what they are reading
- Encourage the use of the local library
- Let them see you reading



## **Attendance Matters**

Attendance is the most important factor in successful learning. At Friern Barnet School, students are encouraged to have 100% attendance.

If your child is absent you must telephone the school by 8.30am on the first day of absence. If your child is absent for more than three days, you must send a note to the office on the third day of absence explaining why they are away.

Parents are requested not to arrange family holidays or visits during term time. Applications for such visits will not be approved and will count as unauthorised absence. If you wish to request leave of absence during term time, please obtain a form from the Attendance Officer and return it for the Head Teacher to consider.

### **Medical Evidence**

Please be advised that the school may request medical evidence for any medical absences which your child accrues. If you are unable to provide medical evidence when requested, the absence will be unauthorised. In the event you cannot obtain a medical appointment with your doctor, you can visit an NHS Walk-in Centre to seek medical treatment.

## **Child Protection and Safeguarding**

Friern Barnet School fully recognises its responsibilities for protecting children; the care, welfare and safety of the students in our charge is of paramount importance. The school should be a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.

All school staff have an important role to play in the prevention of abuse and neglect and it is incumbent upon us to ensure the well-being of all our students in so far as we are able, both inside and outside school and to work with external agencies.

Our child protection policy applies to all staff, governors and volunteers working in the school and can be found on the website. Mr Robinson is the Designated Safeguarding Officer.

## **Student Services**

Student Services is staffed between 7:45am and 3:45pm. All valuable items such as mobile phones can be left at student services before morning registration and collected at the end of the day.

Students arriving and leaving outside of school registration must sign in and out at student services. The medical room is also located at student services. If a student is feeling unwell and unable to continue in lessons he/she should come to the medical room with a note from the teacher. Students are not permitted to go to student services during lesson times, except in an emergency.

## **ParentPay**

Communicating with parents is an important part of what we do, making sure you get the correct information about activities, events and things that really matter is something we care about. At Friern Barnet School we use ParentPay as our method of communication and online payment.

- Messages will get to you reliably by email and/or text
- Students' canteen balances can be topped up online
- You can make online payments for school trips and activities
- You can give permission for events or trips online without having to sign and return forms to us

## **Equipment**

All students are expected to bring correct equipment to lessons. Please ensure that students have the relevant equipment for each lesson. This includes:

- Pens (black, blue, red and green)
- Pencils
- Colouring pencils
- Pencil sharpener
- Pencil case
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Compass
- Protractor
- Calculator
- Solvent-free glue stick
- Relevant exercise books
- PE kit when required
- Reading book

## Opportunities in the Creative Arts

At Friern Barnet School we are constantly seeking new and exciting opportunities for our students to engage in. These include:

- Taking part in exciting projects with artists, actors and dancers, learning new skills and performing at exhibitions and festivals
- Exploring and developing skills in extra-curricular clubs within art, drama, dance and music
- Supporting the local community through workshops, performance events and promoting the arts.

Friern Barnet School has a major involvement with the community. We give our young people the chance to be involved, be heard and be seen in projects such as murals, sculpture, performances and films, both in and out of school.

We run many different after school activities for students of all levels, and also offer additional support to students as part of the Enhanced Arts Programme (EAP). One of the highlights of the year is the school production; this offers students the chance to work together in creating an outstanding performance and always includes many of our new year 7 students.

Communication, individuality, independence and creative thinking are all parts of life-long learning. The creative arts encourages new and exciting ways for young people, the local community and adults to come together and create a place where everyone feels empowered to make a difference.



*Pictures are from our production of Oliver.*

# **Home-School Agreement**

**The school and parents/carers of our students intend to work in partnership to:**

- Encourage students to enjoy their learning and attain the highest standards
- Encourage students to develop personal integrity and respect for themselves and others
- Create a responsible and caring school community

**The school will endeavour to:**

- Care for your child's safety and well-being
- Provide a balanced curriculum, taught to the highest standards and meeting children's individual needs
- Ensure that each student achieves their full potential as a valued member of the school community
- Inform you of any concerns or problems that affect your child's work or behaviour
- Keep you regularly informed about your child's progress
- Keep you regularly informed about general school matters and activities

**Parents/Carers will endeavour to:**

- Ensure that my child attends school regularly, on time, in uniform and properly equipped for lessons
- Inform the school of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's work or behaviour
- Support the school's Codes of Behaviour and Classroom Expectations
- Encourage and support my child with home learning
- Attend parents' evenings and other discussions about my child's progress
- Keep myself informed about my child's life in school by reading the half termly Key Stage 3 bulletin, termly newsletter, regularly checking my child's Firefly account and the school website, reading and discussing my child's termly reports and all other school correspondence
- Join other parents/carers in supporting the school

## **Code of Behaviour**

***Students are expected to:***

- Arrive at school by 8:30am each morning
- Wear the correct uniform throughout the day
- Bring the correct equipment to all lessons
- Get to lessons on time
- Enter the classroom calmly and be ready to learn
- Settle down to work quickly by engaging with the activities set by the teacher
- Move calmly around school without running or shouting
- Behave respectfully to staff and each other at all times
- Mobile phones should be turned off and out of sight