



A guide for parents with children transferring to

Secondary School in 2026

Closing date
31 October 2025

Apply online: www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions



Submit your preferences for Secondary School

If you live in Barnsley and your child was born between
1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015
you will need to apply for a secondary school place by
31 October 2025



Apply online: www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions

The portal opens for applications on
14 July 2025

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Foreword

Choosing a school for your child is an important decision. Whether primary or secondary this marks a significant milestone in every child's life and the lives of their parents/carers.



The aim of the Children's Services Directorate is to ensure that the process of obtaining a place in school for your child goes as smoothly as possible for your family. Barnsley has one of the highest success rates in the

country in matching children to their preferred schools and want to continue to provide parents with the best chance of getting the school they want for their child.

Prior to making your choice there are arrangements in place within all schools for parents and children to find out more about

them either online or by visiting the schools in order to look around and talk to a member of staff. Once a place is offered and before your child starts school there will be further opportunities to visit the school and become familiar with the teaching staff.

Education is a key priority for everyone, and the council is committed to working together to make sure all our children obtain the best education possible. We look forward to working with you and your children in the coming years to help them to achieve their full potential.

Cllr Trevor Cave

Cabinet Spokesperson for Children's Services

Introduction

Parents naturally want the best education for their children. Barnsley Council is committed to raising standards in our schools to benefit all children.



The admission to school process in Barnsley works very well and almost all children gain a place at one of the schools which parents and carers have chosen, and we want this to continue for as many families as possible.

We want all children to attend the school of their choice, therefore reading this booklet will be an important part of your involvement in your child's education and hopefully prevent misunderstanding and disappointment.

We have made the process of applying for a school place even more convenient for parents and carers by enabling parents to apply online (www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

Applying for a school place online is a quick, safe and efficient way of making your application and the process offers many benefits to parents and carers which are outlined in this booklet.

I hope that this booklet provides all the information you need about your child's entry to school. However, if there are questions you need to ask do not hesitate to get advice and guidance from the School Admissions Service.

May I take this opportunity to wish your child every success in their new school and throughout their educational journey in Barnsley.

Carly Speechley

Executive Director Children's Services



Dates to remember

14 July 2025

The portal opens for online applications
www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions

September/October 2025

School Open days – see specific school websites for further details

31 October 2025

Closing date for applications

2 March 2026

National offer day

April – June 2026

Appeal hearings

You can apply for a school place online by visiting the Barnsley Council website:
www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions

There are many advantages of applying online:

- It's quick, easy, and secure.
- It's available 24 hours a day, seven days a week from: **14 July 2025**.
- You can apply from home, work, a library or from your mobile phone as long as you have an email address.
- You will get an email to confirm that your application has been received.
- The system helps you by checking for mistakes.
- You can view your application at any time.
- You can log on and view the offer on national offer day from 12.30am and receive an email later that day.

How do I decide which school to apply for?



Start exploring early

You must apply to the local authority that you live in

Allow yourself time to look at schools in your area, if you are unsure of the schools in your area please see appendix 2 for details of Barnsley Secondary schools. You can also visit our website www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/schools-in-barnsley/

You can also apply for schools that are not in Barnsley.

Finding information about a school

You can submit three choices on your application. Once you have a shortlist of schools, you can find out more about each one by visiting the school's website which will also detail their admissions arrangements. You may also find further information by visiting the school. All Barnsley secondary schools host open evenings for prospective parents, carers and children. These dates will be included in the information pack you will receive from School Admissions.

They can also be found on individual schools' websites.

Research and apply

You may wish to look at prospectuses, performance tables, and Ofsted reports, but remember they don't tell you everything about a school. Visit schools and then list them in order of preference on your application form. We also advise you to consider each school's admissions criteria to see if you're likely to get a place.

Get a complete picture

To get a full impression of a school, we recommend using more than just prospectuses, league tables and Ofsted reports. That's why we recommend you visit the school and see its location, facilities and surroundings. This will help you sense its learning atmosphere.



Considerations to make

- How will your child travel to and from your preferred school(s)? It is the parent/ carer's responsibility to ensure that children get to school.
- We will try our best to offer you the school you prefer, but we cannot always do this. The demand for schools changes every year. Many schools are full, and will have more applicants than places available. We strongly recommend you apply for three schools and include the one nearest to your home.
- We also advise you to consider each school's admissions criteria to understand how places are allocated if more applications than places are received.
- Was the school oversubscribed in previous years?
- Which criteria will your child fall under? For example, do they have a sibling at the school already?
- How many places does the school offer? This is known as the Published Admission Number (PAN).

Oversubscribed schools

The secondary schools below were oversubscribed last year. This means there were more applications than there were places to offer. The distance in miles of the last place offered can also be found below.

A breakdown of how places were offered for all secondary schools can be found in appendix 1 for **2025-26**

Barnsley Academy	4.435
Holy Trinity Catholic and Church of England School	1.807
Horizon Community College	3.709
Kirk Balk Academy	2.619
Outwood Academy Carlton	2.117
Outwood Academy Shafton	2.524
Penistone Grammar School	7.28
Trinity Academy St Edwards – Band 1	0.998
Trinity Academy St Edwards – Band 2	0.828
Trinity Academy St Edwards – Band 3	0.998
Trinity Academy St Edwards – Band 4	1.004



How to apply

You must apply through the local authority where your child lives, regardless of where the school is located.

- 1** Visit **www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions** where you will need to create an account by entering your details.
- 2** Select your child from the list or click 'add new' and enter your child's details.
- 3** Select the correct admission round. There may be more than one you can apply for. You can apply to any school in England, up to a maximum of three schools. We highly recommend that you apply to as many schools as you can, as this will increase your chances of getting one of your preferred schools.

Barnsley schools do not operate catchment areas or feeder schools for admission to school.

- 4** Answer the questions about your child.
- 5** List the schools in the order you prefer, with your favourite school listed first. Your preference order is not disclosed to schools.
- 6** Select the reason you are choosing each school.
- 7** Review your application, then read the declaration.
- 8** Submit your application – you will receive an email confirmation.

1 Parent/carers details

The application should only be made by a person with parental responsibility for the child. This means a person with legal responsibility for making decisions about the child's welfare and education. Please include a daytime contact phone number.

If you are helping a parent apply online, please ensure their details are listed in this section, not yours.

If the child is in public care, the application should be made by the social worker.

2 Child's details

You must use your child's legal name. If you have changed their name legally please attach documentation.

If your child lives at a different address please ensure you enter their address – this must be in Barnsley, even if the schools you are choosing are outside Barnsley.

3 Admission round

Ensure you select the correct Admission Round. There may be more than one option. If you are unsure, please contact admissions.

4 Application details

Enter the name of your child's current school. If it is not in Barnsley you will need to click on advanced and change the Local Authority.

Please ensure that if you are applying for twins/triplets, you must submit one application per child and you must also tick the multiple birth box.

5 Select your preferences

List the schools in the order you prefer, with your favourite school listed first. The schools will not be told which other schools you have chosen, or where they come in the order of preference.

You can list three schools. It is a good idea to list your nearest schools. If you don't apply for any of the schools close to you, and you don't secure a place at one of your preferences, you may find local schools are already full. Your child could end up having to travel further away to get to school.

Barnsley Council **does not** operate catchment areas or feeder schools.

6 Preferences reasons

Select the reason you are choosing each school.

It is extremely important that if you are applying due to the reasons below that you tick the relevant box and complete any details required.

- Sibling
- Medical Social – not all schools have this in their admission arrangements
- Religion – not all schools have this in their admission arrangements
- Staff – not all schools have this in their admissions arrangements

7 Review and submit your application

Check that you have entered the correct details and are happy with the schools and the order.

Read the disclaimer and declaration – you have to tick the box to confirm.

Where separated parents have shared responsibility, only one application must be made and both parents must agree on which schools to apply for. Otherwise, this could delay or even stop the application process. If parents cannot agree, the application will be placed on hold until an agreement is reached, or a court order is issued.

Click the submit application button. You must ensure that you submit your application.

8 Application complete

You will receive an email confirmation which will detail your preferences in order.

If you would like to make a change you can click the finish button. You will see your application where you can 'unsubmit' make any amendments and then submit again.

If you cannot see the 'unsubmit' button please contact School Admissions for further advice.

The schools listed below require additional information to support the admissions process.

- **Barnsley Academy** – if you are applying under social medical reasons you will need to supply evidence. This can be attached to your online application or submitted directly to the school www.barnsley-academy.org/
- **Holy Trinity** – this school requires a SIF form to be completed if you are applying due to faith reasons www.holytrinitybarnsley.org/
Please note that if your child currently attends Holy Trinity in year 6 you do not need to apply for a place for year 7. If you wish to apply for a place at a different school please submit an application.
- **Trinity Academy St Edwards** – this school operates fair banding as part of their admissions arrangements stedwards.trinitymat.org

Applying under sibling criteria

If your child has a brother or sister (including step brother/sister and half brother/sister) living at the same address and attending any of your preferred schools, you must select 'sibling' as the reason for selecting the school. You must enter the sibling details, at the time of admission in:

September 2026

Please note a child in year 11 will not be classed as a sibling as they will not be attending the school when your child starts in: September 2026



Proof of home address

You must provide your current home address and council tax reference number. Details will be checked against Council Tax records. You will be asked to provide additional supporting documentation if we are unable to verify your details. It is important that you provide accurate information, as this can affect the outcome of your application.

If you are moving house you must use the address you are currently living at and inform admissions as soon as you move. You will need to provide evidence.

If you move after the closing date, you must inform admissions, however, we will use the address you were living at on the closing date to determine eligibility.

You must not use the address of a relative, friend, childminder or business.

Note: The offer of a school place can be withdrawn if the information supplied is knowingly incorrect. An admissions authority can also take legal action against anyone who has knowingly given false information to get a school place for their child.

Your child's home address

If you are separated from your child's other parent and your child lives partly with you and partly with the other parent, you should state the address where your child lives most of the time.

If your child splits their time 50/50 or if you have an equal shared care arrangement, you must use the address that they are registered at their Doctors. You can upload a GP/Doctors letter to your application to verify this.

What happens after you have submitted your form?

All forms will be considered together when submitted up to and including the closing date of:
31 October 2025

Applications will be checked and verified by School Admissions or the school before processing for the following claims:

- Education Health and Care Plan, this is not the same as an Early Help referral.
- Currently or previously looked after – i.e. in public care.
- Address
- Siblings
- Religion
- Medical/Social
- Staff

Any claim we are unable to verify will be removed from your application.

Your child will be considered separately for each school you have applied for based on their application form. The schools do not know which other schools you have listed or the order you have listed them in.

If you do not fill in all the required forms or sit any required assessments you are unlikely to be offered a place at the school, even if siblings are attending.

If a school is not oversubscribed, every child who applies will be offered a place.

Barnsley Council is the admissions authority for all community and voluntary controlled schools. The authority will only admit up to the admission number for the school. Once the admission number has been reached no further offers will be made.

Oversubscription criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools

The list below indicates the order by which schools that are oversubscribed will prioritise applicants:

Children with an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) which names the school are required to be admitted.

- 1 Children currently and or previously looked after by a local authority.*
- 2 Children whose siblings will be attending the school on the proposed date of admission.
- 3 Distance to school from the child's home address. Measured in a straight line from the centre point of the child's ordinary place of residence to the main entrance of the school.**



*Looked After Children (LAC), Previously Looked After Children (PLAC), and children who have been in state care outside of England (IPLAC). A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social care functions at the time of making an application to the school. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

**Distance Criterion: Where the remaining place could be made for a number of eligible children who live an equal distance from the school, the offer will be by random allocation through the admissions team's automated system.

Parental dispute

In order to process an application, all parents/carers with parental responsibility for the child must agree on the school preferences. In situations where parents/carers cannot agree, school admissions are unable to process the application until all parties are in agreement, or a court order is issued stating the arrangements to be made for the child's education.

Changes after submission

If you would like to change your application after submission, please contact School Admissions who will advise you how to do this admissions@barnsley.gov.uk or **01226 773677**.

Applications received after closing date 31 October 2025

Applications received after the closing date will be deemed 'late applications' and will be considered after those received on time. If you wish to change your school preferences after the closing date, your application will be treated as late.

Applications will be considered together when received:

1 November 2025 – 1 March 2026

Applications will be processed in the order they are received from:

2 March 2026



National offer day

2 March 2026

You will be able to view the outcome of your application on the portal from 12.30am. In addition to this, you will receive an email with a copy of the outcome letter later that day.

To download the letter you will need to enter verification details. These must exactly match what we have on our system:

- 1 The email address used to apply
- 2 Your child's surname
- 3 Your child's date of birth

Your child will receive only one offer

If your child is eligible for a place at more than one school you will be offered your highest preference school, and all lower preferences will be withdrawn and released to other children. Therefore, please make sure you put the school you really want as first preference.

Please note: the admissions team are unable to give out offers over the phone. If you are unable to access your account on the portal or the letter sent via email, please email **admissions@barnsley.gov.uk**. This should be sent from the email address you applied with and must include your child's name, date of birth, address and what you would like to know.

Accepting the place offered

If you are happy with the school offered there is no need to accept the place. The school will be in touch in due course with further information regarding admission.

If you have accepted a place in a private or independent school for your child, please email **admissions@barnsley.gov.uk** as soon as possible so the place can be offered to another child.

I have not been offered one of my preferred schools

You will be allocated a school place at the next nearest school to your address that has vacancies.

You can choose to appeal against any school you have been refused for. You must complete a notice of appeal form and return to **admissions@barnsley.gov.uk**

How do waiting lists work

Your child will automatically be put on the waiting list for a school where they have not been made an offer of a place, and where that school is ranked higher than where an offer has been made.

Any vacancy which arises in year 7 will be filled from the waiting list. All parents need to be aware that their child's name will not automatically be placed on the waiting list for a school where it is ranked lower than the school for which they have received a single offer of a place.

The waiting list will be established on offer day and will be maintained to:

31 December 2026

Waiting lists for schools will be determined in accordance with the relevant oversubscription criteria.





Important points about waiting lists

- A vacancy only arises when the number of offers made falls below the Published Admission Number.
- Following offer day, should an application be received where the pupil has a higher priority as determined by the oversubscription criteria, they will be placed on the waiting list above those with a lower priority.
- If you choose to submit an appeal no weight is given to your child's place on the waiting list.
- If you have been refused a place at a school in another local authority area you must contact that authority for further information regarding waiting lists.
- If you would like to know your child's place on the waiting list please email school admissions.



What should I do if my child has special educational needs?

The majority of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) have their needs met within local mainstream schools. Some children may require additional support to access mainstream education, and some children may require a needs assessment in order for the council to decide whether it is necessary for it to make provision in accordance with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Where a school is named in the EHCP, in accordance with the council's procedures, the Authority will admit the child to the school.

A small number of secondary schools provide specialist facilities for children who have special educational needs, called Resourced Provisions. These can only be accessed if named in a child's EHCP.

Please note that if a school has an SEN resource provision, an application to that mainstream school does not guarantee a place in the resource provision. The EHC team will look at the most appropriate placement as part of the EHCP process. For enquiries regarding children with special educational needs telephone 01226 773966.

Email: EHCTeam@barnsley.gov.uk

School SEND policy

Barnsley schools can provide support for your child.

Schools provide key information about what they have in place for children with SEND. It's usually found in their SEND policy.

The SEND policy can help parents/carers make an informed choice about the school their child attends.

It contains information about:

- the names, roles, and responsibilities of everyone at the school who are involved with providing for children with SEND
- how the school changes their teaching and makes sure that children with SEND make good progress
- how accessible the school is.

The SEND policy must be displayed on the school's website.

Take a look at the link below to find your local school, then click on their website – it's usually under their 'Policy' section.

www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/schools-in-barnsley/



School admission appeals

If your child has been refused a place at any school named on your application or transfer form, you have the right to refer your case to an independent appeal panel who will review your appeal.

In order to appeal the decision you will need to complete a notice of appeal. This can be found on our website www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

The independent appeal process is a legal process and the decision is final.

Appeals for secondary school places have 2 stages. The first stage is where the school's case is presented to evidence why prejudice would be caused if any further children were to be admitted.

If the panel feel that prejudice would not be caused then all children appealing would be granted a place and that would be the end of the appeal.

If the panel agree that prejudice would be caused to the school, then the appeal moves to stage 2. This is where parents would present their case why they need a place for their child.

The panel will then make a decision in private and you will be informed in writing.

For further information regarding the appeals process please visit our website www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions.





Summer born children

Parents of summer born children born between **1 April and 31 August** who do not feel that their child is ready to begin school before they reach compulsory school age can request that their child delays entrance into reception.

If your child had a delayed entry into primary school, for example due to being summer born, and is still educated outside their normal age group, you will need to apply for a delayed entry into secondary school when your child enters year 5.

For further information on summer born children and delayed admissions, please visit our website or contact school admissions.

www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions



Transferring schools

Transferring schools, other than at normal transition times, can be very disruptive to your child's education. The local authority coordinates all in-year applications for Barnsley schools.

You must complete an in-year application if your child:

- is transferring from one school to another
- has been educated at home and now wishes to apply for a school place
- has newly arrived in the UK and is looking for a school place

When should I apply?

We advise that you should make your application as soon as possible. We accept in-year applications one term in advance.

Fair Access Protocol

To comply with legislation Barnsley Council has a **Fair Access Protocol** with all the schools in the borough. This means that, in some circumstances, pupils defined in the Protocol will have a higher priority for admission than all other pupils seeking admission to that school.



Help and advice

School Admissions

Barnsley Council
Childrens Services
Education and Partnerships
School Admissions
PO Box 634
Barnsley
S70 9GG
Tel: 01226 773677
Email: admissions@barnsley.gov.uk

Independent Appeal Process

Barnsley Council
Legal and Governance
Governance and Member Support
PO Box 634
Barnsley
S70 9GG
Tel: 01226 773147/01226 773106
Email: schoolappeals@barnsley.gov.uk

Education Welfare

For further information please visit our website
www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/barnsley-education-welfare-service/



Useful information

School admissions code

assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/60ebfeb08fa8f50c76838685/School_admissions_code_2021.pdf

School appeal code

assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6335a0c88fa8f506931f6d44/School_Admission_Appeals_Code_2022.pdf

Summer born children

www.gov.uk/government/publications/summer-born-children-school-admission



Neighbouring local authorities

Doncaster school admissions team

Doncaster Council Civic Building
Waterdale
Doncaster
DN1 3BU
Tel: 01302 737262
Email: admissions@doncaster.gov.uk

Sheffield pupil admissions

Floor 5 West Wing
Moorfoot
Sheffield
S1 4PL
Tel: 0114 273 5766
Email: ed-admissions@sheffield.gov.uk

Kirklees pupil admissions

PO Box 1720
Huddersfield
HD1 9EL
Tel: 01484 225007
Email: pupiladmissions@kirklees.gov.uk

Wakefield schools admissions

Wakefield Council
Wakefield One
PO Box 700
Burton Street
Wakefield
WF1 2EB
Tel: 01924 306052
Email: admissions@wakefield.gov.uk

Rotherham school admissions team

Children and Young Peoples Services
Riverside House
Wing C First Floor
Main Street
Rotherham
S60 1AE
Tel: 01709 823777
Email: admissions.enquiries@rotherham.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Breakdown of how places were allocated for academic year 2025-26

Astrea Academy Dearne	
Number of places	240
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	9
Looked after children	2
Sibling	49
Distance	136
Total places offered	196

Barnsley Academy	
Number of places	180
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	6
Looked after children	2
Medical	0
Sibling	53
Distance	119
Total places offered	180

Darton Academy	
Number of places	240
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	10
Looked after children	0
Sibling	60
Distance	131
Total places offered	201

Holy Trinity Catholic and Church of England School	
Number of places	80
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	11
Looked after children	1
Catholic children who reside in the parishes of Blessed Sacrament, St Mary Magdalene and St Theresa's (and Holy Rood for entry to the secondary phase). Church of England children who reside within the Barnsley Deanery*	11
Sibling	19
Catholic children who reside outside the Catholic parishes listed and Church of England children who reside outside the Church of England Barnsley Deanery boundaries*	1
Children who are practising members of other Christian communities and who have the written support of their minister of religion*	1
Children who are members of other faiths who have the written support of their religious leader*	0
Distance	36
Total places offered	80**

Horizon Community College	
Number of places	390
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	7
Looked after children	11
Sibling	97
Distance	275
Total places offered	390

*For further clarification on the oversubscription criteria please visit the school website and view the admission policy.

**Children currently on roll in year 6 (60) automatically move through into the secondary phase of the school.

Kirk Balk Academy	
Number of places	270
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	6
Looked after children	0
Sibling	79
Distance	185
Total places offered	270

Netherwood Academy	
Number of places	320
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	3
Looked after children	4
Sibling	74
Distance	182
Total places offered	263

Outwood Academy Carlton	
Number of places	220
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	13
Looked after children	5
Sibling	70
Distance	132
Total places offered	220

Outwood Academy Shafton	
Number of places	270
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	9
Looked after children	3
Sibling	68
Distance	190
Total places offered	270

Penistone Grammar School	
Number of places	320
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	4
Looked after children	2
Sibling	97
Distance	217
Total places offered	320

Trinity Academy St Edwards				
Number of places	180			
	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4
Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	6	3	1	0
Looked after children	0	2	0	0
Sibling	7	12	20	21
Distance	17	23	27	41
Total places offered	30	40	48	62

Appendix 2 Information from schools

Astrea Academy Dearne

Goldthorpe Road, Goldthorpe
Rotherham S63 9EW

Tel: 01709 892211

Email: info@astreadearne.org

www.astreadearne.org

Principals:

Mrs Emma Glover (Executive Principal)

Mr Amir Arezoo (Principal)



Welcome from the Principal

At Astrea Academy Dearne, we prepare young people for an ever-changing world that values self-confident, well-educated, and enterprising individuals. To ensure scholars are prepared for their futures we provide an exceptional education, one that is relevant to the 21st Century, and that emphasises traditional standards of uniform, discipline, and respect.

Standards and high expectations are particularly important to us, and we are extremely proud of the many achievements of scholars and staff at the academy. We aim to excite young people about their learning and to celebrate their successes. Our staff seek to inspire through excellent teaching and learning promoting strong rates of progress for all scholars, regardless of background. Life in our academy is underpinned by our core values of **scholarship, responsibility, tenacity, respect, and curiosity**.

We promote **scholarship** by offering a curriculum which is rich in powerful knowledge and meticulously planned by subject experts. We know that understanding and being able to use this powerful knowledge is the key that will open doors to amazing opportunities for our scholars in the future.

We **respect** every scholar's right to access an exceptional education and offer academic, inspiring, and broad opportunities for all through both our curriculum and co-curriculum. We teach our young people to be **responsible** through our thoughtful behaviour education programme and essential habit and routine building work. Our scholars **respect** everyone in our academy's community and grow their **responsibility**, knowing that they are the leaders of tomorrow.

We are **tenacious** in our commitment to do the absolute best for the young people in our care and this **tenacity** is mirrored in the way that our scholars work on their academic and character education every day. We foster **curiosity** in our young people by providing them with a rounded education which opens doors to new opportunities, ideas, and experiences.

We aim to provide the highest quality of pastoral care and academic standards, helping to develop in our scholars a keen sense of pride in themselves, their academy, and the wider community. We recognise the crucial role that parents/carers have in this respect and so strive to work in strong partnership with them throughout their children's time with us.

Our supportive approach enables everyone to develop the skills and knowledge required to be responsible and considerate individuals suited to the demands of our ever-changing multicultural society. We place a high emphasis on positive behaviour which ensures the academy is a happy and safe place within which to learn.

Mr Amir Arezoo
Principal

Barnsley Academy

Farm Road
Kendray
S70 3DL

Tel: 01226 284606

Email: enquiries@barnsley-academy.org

www.barnsley-academy.org

Principal: Mr S Pitcher



Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to Barnsley Academy. Our goal is to provide your child with a world-class education, so they leave as confident, determined, and ambitious young people with the best possible qualifications; their passport to a successful and fulfilled life.

We make no apology for having very high expectations of staff and students. At the Academy, we insist on excellent uniform and disruption-free learning in the classroom.

We explicitly teach students how to behave well and the routines we expect throughout the school day, which are underpinned by our core values. These expectations and routines are so important to ensure our students succeed.

Whilst academic success is very important, at Barnsley Academy we believe that there is more to a great education. As well as ensuring our students succeed in exams, we aim to develop character.

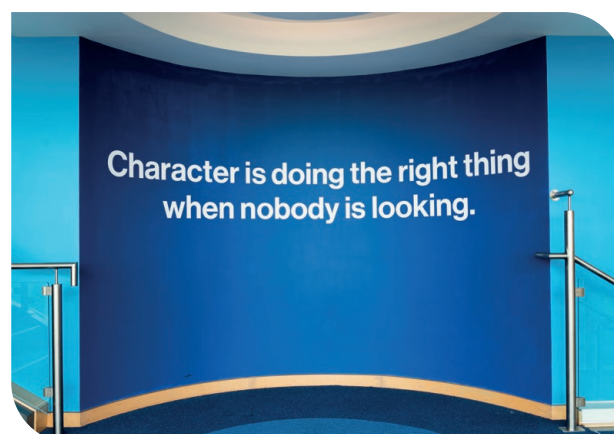
Our curriculum offers a rich and varied range of subjects. Our enrichment programme provides students with opportunities, which includes a wide range of clubs, trips, university visits, talks by inspirational speakers and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. There are also opportunities for students to collaborate with their peers at United Learning schools across the country.

We are incredibly proud to deliver an Education with Character; an education which challenges, inspires and excites our students and prepares them for a successful future.

If you would like to visit us or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. For further information, our website will also provide you with a flavour of life at Barnsley Academy.

Mr S Pitcher

Principal



Darton Academy

Ballfield Lane

Darton

Barnsley

S75 5EF

Tel: 01226 232306

Email: info@dartonacademy.org.uk

www.dartonacademy.org.uk

Principal: Mr Joe Spencer



Our ethos and values

Darton Academy is an exciting place to learn and as soon as you enter the building you can feel a buzz of enthusiasm. There is a sense of purpose, and the academy is calm and orderly, with state-of-the-art facilities.

We are a close-knit community, and we pride ourselves on knowing our pupils well and doing our utmost to ensure everyone fulfils their true potential. We were inspected by Ofsted in February 2023 and recognised as a 'Good', school.

We aim to ensure that our pupils can learn in a safe and supportive environment, where everyone values academic achievement and has a positive attitude to learning. As a result of our journey of continuous improvement, our pupils achieved another set of fantastic GCSE results in the summer of 2023, and we continue to go from strength to strength.

We believe in rewarding pupils for good behaviour, attendance and achievement and run a number of celebration events throughout the year, from 'Super September' to our summer 'DartFest'. We place learning at the heart of everything we do and use our core values of respect, responsibility and resilience to build a positive ethos. Ultimately, we understand that our pupils are most successful when they feel happy, valued, challenged and supported to achieve their very best. Our dedicated and talented teachers and support staff are committed to ensuring the best possible outcomes for every child in our care. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to Darton Academy.

Mr Joe Spencer

Principal

Holy Trinity Catholic and Church of England School

Carlton Road
Barnsley
S71 2LF

Tel: 01226 704550

Email: info@holytrinitybarnsley.org

www.holytrinitybarnsley.org

Headteacher: Mrs Oldcorn

HOLY TRINITY



Welcome from the Headteacher

Our Catholic and Church of England values form our distinctive Christian ethos; this sets the foundation for everything we do.

We offer a unique opportunity for pupils to grow academically whilst exploring their spiritual lives through the Christian faith. Holy Trinity celebrates the uniqueness of every person as a child of God. The Ethos of our school is one that is founded on the love of Christ and based on the Gospel Values of love, respect, repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation. We offer care, guidance and support to everyone and encourage our pupils to reach their full potential within a supportive and inclusive environment. Pupils take part in Worship, Liturgies, Retreats, Charity Work, Events and Campaigns such as World Mental Health Day and Pilgrimages to Lourdes.

We have the highest aspirations for our pupils; celebrating achievement and recognising success in all its forms. We strive to create a positive, stimulating environment, where everyone is supported, empowered and challenged to achieve their potential. All of our pupils have equal opportunities to develop as individuals and to contribute to the school community. By working together as an inclusive community, we are all able to thrive.

We promote the Holy Trinity Behaviour Standard: 'Respect, Responsibility and Ambition'. This enables all members of our school community to understand the characteristics needed to succeed, not just at school but in the wider world.

At Holy Trinity, we offer a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum which gives pupils the opportunity to succeed. They have access to state-of-the-art facilities, which enhance the learning experience.

We encourage the belief that intelligence is not a fixed trait but rather, is something that can be cultivated with hard work and effort. Teachers focus our pupils' attention on the processes involved in learning subject specific material and we promote effort, adaptability, resilience and motivation through praise, reward and feedback. We place great importance on reading competence and confidence, enabling pupils to understand the learning across a whole range of subjects. Reading also helps pupils to develop a broader vocabulary and comprehension, which then helps them talk with confidence about the subjects they are learning. Guiding pupils to read for pleasure is also an important part of our curriculum.

We have a specialist careers advisor who makes sure that our pupils are aware of all the post-16 opportunities available to them. In addition, they help pupils to make important decisions about the type of work they would like to do in the future. We also hold regular careers fairs, which are attended by further and higher education providers, training organisations and employers.

Horizon Community College

Dodworth Road
Barnsley
S70 6PD

Tel: 01226 704230

Email: info@horizoncc.co.uk

www.horizoncc.co.uk

Principal: Mrs C Huddart



As Barnsley evolves – economically, socially, and culturally – so do the opportunities for its young people. Horizon Community College stands at the heart of this change, preparing students not just for exams, but for life in a fast-moving world.

A School for the Future

At Horizon, we prepare students for a future filled with exciting possibilities. Our curriculum is built to challenge, inspire, and equip every learner with the qualifications, character, and skills needed to succeed in the modern world. Whether aiming for university, apprenticeships, or high-level careers, our students are confident and career ready.

Award-Winning Education

Horizon is proud to hold the **STEM Gold Award**, recognising excellence in Science, Technology and Maths. Students benefit from expert teaching and real-world industry links. Our **Personal Development Award** celebrates our rich offer in sport, arts, leadership, and emotional wellbeing, while the **Careers Gold Mark** confirms Horizon as a leader in future-focused education.

From Year 7, students are supported with employer encounters, workplace visits, and tailored guidance to explore their passions and plan for success.

Outstanding Outcomes

Our students consistently achieve results above national averages, progressing to sixth forms, colleges, apprenticeships, and universities. These outcomes reflect high expectations, excellent teaching, and a strong school culture that motivates every learner to do their best.

A Strong, Caring Community

At Horizon, success is built on partnership – with students, families, and the wider community. Our Core values of, **Kindness, Ambition, Resilience, Independence, Pride and Respect** are woven into every part of school life.

Come and See for Yourself

Join us at our open day to experience why Horizon Community College could be the right choice for your child's next chapter.

Kirk Balk Academy

West Street
Hoyland
Barnsley
S74 9HX

Tel: 01226 742286

Email: kirkbalk.enquiries@northerneducationtrust.org

www: kba.northerneducationtrust.org

Principal: Mrs Hayley Craddock



Welcome from the Principal

I am both incredibly proud and profoundly delighted to be able to offer you a warm welcome to Northern Education Trust Kirk Balk Academy.

We are unashamedly focused on the educational outcomes of our students and deem that our students deserve to achieve the very best grades that they are capable of. We believe that this is the whole point of running a great school and we are exceedingly proud that we achieve this by taking a truly child-centred approach.

Our students are the most important people in our building! We are keen for everyone to understand our vision: "We constantly focus on standards as we understand outcomes are paramount. Our decision making is driven entirely by what is best for children. By doing this we enhance the life chances of the children and young people in our care."

In addition to the core business, there are also countless opportunities to learn, develop, make new friends and have fun through extra-curricular activities. We have a strong sporting ethos, and there are many different sports offered throughout the year. In addition to this, we offer extra-curricular opportunities in drama, music, dance, and many other areas.

I hope you already share or will come to share, my belief that Kirk Balk is an exceptional place to attend as a student, or to work in as an adult.

Netherwood Academy

Dove Valley Way
Wombwell
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S73 8FE

Tel: 01226 272000

Email: contact@astreanetherwood.org

www.astreanetherwood.org

Principal: Andrew Downing



Welcome to Netherwood Academy – part of the Astrea Academy Trust

Thank you for considering Netherwood as the next step in your child's educational journey.

We look forward to welcoming them in September 2026 and already hold high aspirations for them as members of the Class of 2031. We hope they, too, will aim high and embrace the many opportunities their future holds.

At Netherwood Academy, we are proud to be part of Astrea Academy Trust – a family of schools united by a commitment to excellence. Our curriculum is shaped by the best educational research and designed to challenge, inspire, and support all scholars. We refer to our students as *scholars* to reflect the seriousness with which we approach learning and the high standards we expect from every individual.

Our calm, purposeful classrooms are built on strong routines and consistent expectations. These allow scholars to thrive academically in a safe, structured environment where learning is never disrupted. Alongside a broad and balanced curriculum, we offer a rich programme of personal development that encourages scholars to understand their place in the local community and the wider world.

We believe in traditional values – hard work, good manners, kindness, and respect – and we teach

these explicitly through our daily routines. We are both warm and strict: we care deeply about our scholars, and we know that clear boundaries help them succeed.

As an Astrea school, our work is underpinned by a shared set of values:

- **Scholarship** – Pursuing excellence through research and high standards.
- **Curiosity** – Encouraging questions, exploration, and lifelong learning.
- **Tenacity** – Working with determination and never giving up.
- **Respect** – Valuing others, celebrating differences, and acting with integrity.
- **Responsibility** – Owning our actions and striving for the best outcomes.

We are unapologetically ambitious for every child. We are relentless in our drive to ensure all scholars, regardless of background, achieve their full potential. At Netherwood Academy, we create the conditions for success – academically, socially, and personally – and we look forward to your child becoming part of our thriving school community.

Outwood Academy Carlton

Royston Lane
Barnsley
S71 3EW

Tel: 01226 728494

Email: enquiries@carlton.outwood.com

www: www.carlton.outwood.com

Principal: Mr P Taylor



We are proud that Outwood Academy Carlton is rated Good by Ofsted and we are delighted to be based in the friendly, attractive village of Carlton in South Yorkshire.

We are a welcoming and supportive academy, with a relentless determination to provide the very best education for every child. We place students at the centre of everything we do, with a focus on creating a culture of success and a positive climate for learning.

The Academy became part of the Outwood Family of Schools in 2016 and as a member of the Outwood Family we believe in putting Students First, raising standards and transforming lives.

Outwood Academy Shafton

Engine Lane
Barnsley
S73 8RE

Tel: 01226 717730

Email: enquiries@shafton.outwood.com

www.shafton.outwood.com

Principal: Alison McQueen



As Principal, I am thrilled to introduce you to Outwood Academy Shafton. Situated in the heart of Shafton, our academy is a vibrant and thriving school, a true place of belonging. We are committed to kindness, compassion, high standards, and the highest quality teaching and learning every single day.

It fills me with immense pride to see our students flourish daily. We are proud to be part of the Outwood Family, a Trust renowned for its commitment to transforming lives and raising standards.

Every member of staff at Outwood Academy Shafton is dedicated to providing the very best opportunities for our students. Our primary focus is enhancing their life chances, and we are incredibly proud of the positive transformation we bring to the lives of our young people and the entire community. We take genuine pride in witnessing our students flourish, not only academically but also as well-rounded individuals prepared to contribute positively to the world. This success is fostered by a team of highly dedicated and passionate staff members who are relentlessly focused on enriching the lives of every young person entrusted to our care. We celebrate every success, big or small, knowing that each step forward contributes to a brighter future for our students and our community.

We believe in fostering an atmosphere where curiosity is ignited, critical thinking is encouraged, and individual talents are recognised and celebrated. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, enriched with a wide array of extracurricular opportunities, to ensure that every student can discover their passions and develop their unique strengths.

At Outwood Academy Shafton, we strive to create a positive and aspirational learning environment, and our recent Ofsted report confirms that we are achieving our goals. We are continuously committed to building upon this strong foundation, always seeking ways to innovate, improve, and ensure that every student who walks through our doors receives the absolute best possible education, preparing them not just for examinations, but for a successful and fulfilling life beyond Shafton.

Penistone Grammar School

Huddersfield Road
Sheffield
S36 7BX

Tel: 01226 762114

Email: enquiries@penistone-gs.uk

www.penistone-gs.uk

Principal: Mr P Crook



Welcome from the Principal

Penistone Grammar School is thriving. With first-class teaching, a 'values-driven' approach to learning and a strong school community, PGS provides an excellent educational experience for students from year 7 through to year 13.

Everything we do is driven by our core values (Aim High; Be Determined; Be Kind; Be Supportive; Be Proud) and is underpinned by honesty, integrity and respect. We believe the potential our students hold in terms of their personal achievement is limitless and our aim is to empower them so that they can go forward, prepared for whatever challenges they may face with absolute confidence, knowing they have the skills and qualities needed to succeed.

We are extremely proud of the academic success of our students and have cemented our position as one of the top secondary schools in the region. We pride ourselves on ensuring all our students are given the support they need to make excellent progress, regardless of their starting point or context. On average, students make nearly half a grade better progress than their peers nationally and over 81% of students left us last year with a grade 4 or higher in English and Mathematics at GCSE, with many students obtaining the new, elite, grade 9.

Our Post-16 provision is even more impressive. Student progress was once again outstanding with an ALPS 2 in 2024 which, according to ALPS, is recognised as 'Outstanding' and 'scoring between the 90th and 99th percentile' (within

the top 10% nationally). Our students have now achieved results within the top 10% nationally for five years in a row.

Of all grades achieved, 25% were A*, 55% were A*/A and 79% A*-B which are well above national and represent some of the best figures in South Yorkshire. The 'Average Points Score' for students was 45.02 which represents an average grade of an A. 14 students (nearly 10%) achieved 3 or 4 A*s. 98% of students secured a place at their university of choice with 53% of students achieving a place at a prestigious Russell Group university (over 4 times the national average). We had more students than ever achieve places at highly competitive universities or courses. Four students achieved a place to study at Oxbridge and a further eight were successful in achieving a place studying either medicine or veterinary medicine.

We are proud of our rich tradition of excellence, striving to achieve the highest standards and to be at the heart of our community. We are a happy school and we encourage our students to follow their interests, develop new skills and more importantly, fully enjoy everything that Penistone Grammar School has to offer.

Trinity Academy St Edward's

Keresforth Close

Barnsley

S70 6RS

Tel: 01226 664166

Email: contactus@stedwards.trinitymat.org

stedwards.trinitymat.org

Principal: Mr Mark Allen



I am honoured and immensely proud to lead the Trinity Academy St Edward's community. We officially opened on the 3rd September 2021 with an opening ceremony and guard of honour that I will never forget.

Since then, our children have continued to amaze me with their positivity, manners, attitude to learning and most importantly the standard of work they produce. Already they are developing into resilient and capable young adults that we are very proud of. We welcomed our first Ofsted visit in May 2024 and we are all very proud that our school was judged to be outstanding in all areas.

Our talented staff deliver superb learning opportunities from our broad and balanced curriculum. Each day I see each of our core values of Empathy, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility in action as our #TeamTrinity community work together to ensure that all our children, no matter of starting point or barriers, succeed. Our STEM specialism continues to grow, we have held experience days for engineering, space and construction, alongside this, our projects with both the University of Leeds and University of Huddersfield are beginning to raise aspirations for the future.

Our INVOLVE extracurricular programme is loved by our students. They take part in different sports, clubs, and experiences all led by our team of staff. A full programme is delivered twice a week with children attending a variety of clubs including creative writing, coding, Archbishop of York Award, STEM juniors, CSI challenge and many more. Children attending Trinity Academy St Edward's gain amazing experiences that develop new friendships as well as solidifying current ones; all contributing to the development of lifelong memories. Our commitment to academic excellence runs through every department of the academy and our staff push the children hard to learn, understand and achieve more.

We aim to change the lives of every single child that is part of our academy, and we offer no excuses for wanting only the very best for our #TeamTrinity family.

Barnsley – the place of possibilities.



Contact

Tel: 01226 773677

Email: admissions@barnsley.gov.uk