

Barnsole Primary School

Prospectus



Barnsole Primary School



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Welcome to Barnsole Primary School

A warm welcome to our school. We are a unique and diverse learning community located in Gillingham that provides the best possible support in enabling pupils to achieve their best. We are proud that equity, equality and inclusion are embedded in our ethos and that we are a school where all families are welcomed without exception.

The school is spread across two sites both located within the Gillingham area. Pupils from Nursery to Year 2 are based on the Infants site and Years 3 to 6 across the road on the Juniors site. Our nursery is in a separate building within the Infants site, which offers both part-time and full-time places.

We are a school with high aspirations for pupils, their families and the community of Gillingham. Every single child at Barnsole is given the opportunity to achieve their very best, and we have built our curriculum through developing close partnerships with our parents/carers and community. We pride ourselves on providing the highest quality learning experiences; learning is engaging and relevant to the lives of our pupils.



Jonathan Smales
Head of School



David Marsh
Executive Headteacher



About Us

As your local primary school, we are committed to ensuring that the children of Gillingham grow into amazing, polite, respectful, well-behaved and confident young people.

Our teachers and support staff work effectively together to create a sense of family amongst the children and their parents and carers alike. By establishing such strong relationships, we ensure that the children are happy – but also challenged. We encourage risk taking and resilience in all our children.

Our first priority is that we want pupils to feel safe at our school, to understand that they will be supported both academically and personally, so they can achieve their very best and be proud of their achievements. The life skills we teach our pupils here give them confidence and self-belief.

Our School Values

Our School Vision is 'Empowering every child, nurturing diversity, fostering lifelong curiosity and resilience – aspirations are high for all.'

At Barnsole, our pupils helped staff to collate a list of the values that we believe are most important to us within our school and community. These values are clear to see across the school, where a calm approach supports our collaborative and purposeful learning. More importantly, they are a set of values that we hope pupils will continue to improve upon and use to good effect at secondary school and in later life. Our school values are built into our broad and balanced curriculum, and play an integral part in the daily life at school; complementing the British Values while also helping to develop children as respectful and confident individuals.



Key Information

Uniform

Our uniform is a mark of our school's collective identity. It has been chosen with comfort and practicality in mind, and pupils are expected to present themselves and wear their school uniform with pride. You can get our uniform online or in Uniform Base shop in Chatham, 11 Railway St, ME4 4HU.

Winter

- Black or grey skirts, or trousers
- White polo shirt
- Navy blue sweatshirt or navy blue cardigan (with or without school logo)
- Black, blue, white or grey tights
- Black shoes or black trainers (no bright laces)
- Black, blue, white or grey leggings

Summer

- Black or grey skirts, shorts or trousers
- Blue and white gingham dress
- White polo shirt
- Navy blue sweatshirt or navy blue cardigan (with or without school logo)
- Black shoes or black trainers (no bright laces)

Shoes should be, as far as possible, flat and sturdy. Shoes which are high heeled or with thin straps are not permitted as they can be hazardous when running and do not promote good foot health. If children wear boots to school, they must bring alternative shoes to change into.

Swimming Kit

Children need a one-piece costume and a towel. Goggles are not permitted. Children will have to remove any ear-rings. Swimming hats are required and non-negotiable following the health and safety policy of the swimming venue.



Key Information

PE Kit

- Black or plain coloured shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- T-shirt in the colour of your child's house team (Discoverers - yellow; Adventurers - green; Challengers - blue; Explorers - red)
- Jumper for when doing PE outside (children may use their school jumper as long as it is on top of their PE t-shirt)
- Black trainers (no bright laces)

On the days that the children have PE they can come to school already wearing their PE kit.

It is essential that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name, including coats and PE kit.

Our School Day

Nursery

Morning session: 8:40am - 11:40am

Afternoon session: 12:20pm - 3:20pm

Infant Site (Reception-Year 2)

Gates open at 8:40am

Registration at 8:50am

Lessons start at 9:00am

Collection at 3:10pm



Key Information

Junior Site (Years 3-6)

Years 5 and 6 to use the gate located next to the Junior main reception.

Years 3 and 4 to use the gate located further down by the bus stop and the main gate on School Avenue.

Gates open at 8:40am

Registration at 8:50am

Lessons start at 9:00am

Collection from the KS2 playgrounds at 3:20pm

Friends Of Barnsole (PTA)

Our PTA works closely with the school community to organise events throughout the year to raise money for different projects. If you are interested in joining us, please contact friends@barnsole-maritime.org

Our Curriculum

Our curriculum at Barnsole introduces pupils to the best that has been thought and said, and helps stimulate an appreciation of human creativity and achievement. We are consistently exploring new ways to prepare our children to function in the world beyond the classroom. We want all of our children to move confidently and successfully through their education. At Barnsole, we believe in providing the best quality teaching and learning for all our pupils. We all work together to ensure that our curriculum engages all learners and provides opportunities for deeper learning.

To find out more about our curriculum, please visit [our website](#).



Admissions Process

Nursery

For 3 year-old children in the Gillingham area, we have created a highly supportive nursery environment which encourages your child to play and have fun, developing a love of learning under the guidance of a qualified teacher.

We offer both 30 hour full time places (8:40am - 3:20pm) and 15 hour places Monday to Friday. These can be taken as 5 morning sessions from 8:40am to 11:40am, or 5 afternoon sessions from 12:20pm to 3:20pm. If you would like to apply, please contact the School Office.

Reception

Children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 will be eligible for a place in September 2025.

Barnsole follows the Maritime policy for school admissions. To apply for a Reception school place visit the [Medway council website](#).

Primary School

To apply for Primary school places now, [click here](#).



A young girl with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing a dark blue school uniform with a white collar, is sitting at a desk. She is gesturing with her hands while looking down at a black bag. The background shows a classroom setting with shelves, books, and posters.

School Meals

At Barnsole, parents can choose on a daily basis whether they wish their child to have a packed lunch or school dinner. Please contact the school office if you think your child is eligible for Free School Meals.

For School dinner, our school caters are The Contract Dining Company. If you would like to know what your children is having, please visit their [website](#).

To pay for our School dinner, we use an app called SchoolFundUnited. To activate your account, please contact the school office for further details. Please ensure you pay for the meals in advance.

Support

Children with SEN

At Barnsole Primary School, we aim to offer excellence and choice to all our children, whatever their ability or needs. We have high expectations of all our children. We aim to achieve this through the removal of barriers to learning and participation. We want all our children to feel that they are a valued part of our school community. Through appropriate curricular provision, we respect the fact that children:

- Have different educational and behavioural needs and aspirations;
- Require different strategies for learning;
- Acquire, assimilate and communicate information at different rates;
- Need a range of different teaching approaches and experiences.

We ensure that all learners are entitled to a “broad and balanced” curriculum and this means that wherever possible, the work that children are asked to do is varied and suited to their specific learning requirements. Teachers use carefully planned differentiated activities to enable all learners to grow in confidence, skills and knowledge, work to the best of their potential and to make progress.

It is the policy at Barnsole Primary School to try to meet the needs of all children. We endeavour to provide a caring, happy and secure environment where each child’s true potential can be fulfilled.

We monitor progress carefully and work in partnership with parents and outside agencies to ensure we raise the level of achievement of all our children. We are committed to creating opportunities to enable all our children to succeed. This is achieved by promoting positive feelings of self-worth, high esteem, confidence and mutual respect. We are committed to an inclusive practice to ensure that children can work happily and co-operatively alongside each other.

Through careful assessment it will become clear that some learners may require more specific or targeted support. Some of these activities are available to a large number of pupils, whilst others are only available to specific children who are experiencing specific difficulties.

For more information on what activities and support we provide, please visit our [website](#).



Transition Ready?

We regularly support our families with the children's transition to secondary school through newsletter reminders, parent meetings, school visit discussions and conversations at the end of the school day. Our school staff will support our families to discuss their options and will share information we have received from our local secondary schools. This year our children will be attending a wide range of secondary schools, including:

- Brompton Academy
- The Robert Napier School
- The Howard School
- Rainham Mark Grammar School
- Rainham School for Girls
- Chatham Grammar



Wraparound Care

We offer morning and afternoon wraparound care through our Breakfast Club and After School Club, both of which are run by members of our school staff.

Breakfast Club (Infant and Junior sites)

Our Breakfast club runs at 7:30am to 8:40am (term time only) and it costs £4.00 per session. Children are provided with breakfast and are supervised with reading, games and activities. Please speak to the school office to book a place for your child.

After School Club

At Barnsole we provide an After-School Club for all primary school aged children (except Nursery), offering fun and affordable childcare delivered in a safe and supervised environment. Children can try a range of activities including arts and crafts, sports, or just chill out and enjoy the variety of toys and games available. We encourage children to try something new, but understand that not every activity suits every child so an alternative is always available.

If you would like to book a place, please contact the school office (01634 333 400) or email: office@barnsole-maritime.org

Our Parents Say

'Very grateful for the rich learning environment in Nursery and for the Speech and Language and the speech and language interventions.'

Nursery Parent

'My child is very happy, the teaching staff are very good at nurturing and developing the children's academic skills, as well as social interaction and productive play.'

Reception Parent

'Very good teachers and really helpful, my daughter has learnt a lot of things. I am very happy with school, teachers and staff.'

Year 2 Parent

'I love this school, keep it up, good teachers - you guys are so welcoming.'

Year 4 Parent



Contact Us



[@Barnsoleschool](https://twitter.com/Barnsoleschool)



[@Barnsoleschool](https://www.facebook.com/Barnsoleschool)



Barnsole Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 2JG



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