



The Birley Academy

Year 6 Key Information Booklet September 2021 Intake

Essential information
for parents



The Birley Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy





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Please contact 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.
- 



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



Personal Presentation

- Always wear full, correct uniform including PE kit.
- Tie back long hair for practical subjects such as Science, DT and PE.
- Fake nails and excessive make-up is not allowed and you will be asked to remove them.
- Do not eat between lessons, only before school, breaks and lunchtime.
- Only drink water in lessons, no other eating, drinking or chewing.
- Wear minimal jewellery – one small pair of stud earrings which must be removed for PE. No other jewellery is permitted.
- Do not wear hats or hoodies inside the building.

Rewards include: praise, postcards and phone calls home, house
Points and awards.

Consequences include: phone calls home, detentions, community
service, work room, exclusion.

The decision of the Headteacher is final





Positive Environment

- Do not drop litter.
- Always clear up your table/areas after eating.
- Do not take food beyond the dining hall/server/main hall area.
- Do not throw.
- Do not disturb others.
- Do not graffiti or otherwise damage the school environment.
- Report any breakages or spillages immediately.
- Be aware of congestion areas and act responsibility.

Rewards include: praise, postcards and phone calls home, house Points and awards.

Consequences include: phone calls home, detentions, community service, work room, exclusion.

The decision of the Headteacher is final





Punctuality

- Ensure you arrive at school by 8.35 – after 8.35 is counted as late.
- Walk with purpose to your lessons – don't dawdle.
- Use the most direct allowed route to your lesson.
- Do not wait until the end of break or lunchtime to go to the toilet, to the food queues or Student Reception.
- The bell sounding signifies when you should move to lessons NOT when the lesson starts.
- Lessons start at:

Tutor Time – 8.40

P1 – 9.00

P2 – 10.00

P3 – 11.15

P4: 12.15 or 12.45

P5 – 1.45

Rewards include: praise, postcards and phone calls home, house Points and awards.

Consequences include: phone calls home, detentions, community service, work room, exclusion.

The decision of the Headteacher is final





Personal Conduct

- Move around the building and grounds calmly, without running.
- Phones and electronic devices are not allowed to be used anywhere in the Academy.
- Speak respectfully and politely at all times.
- Use 'private voices' no calling or shouting.
- Follow instructions from all adults, at the first time of asking.
- Do not lean over the balconies, galleries and stairs.
- Do not make physical contact with others or play games involving physical contact.
- Always use appropriate, professional language - no swearing, name-calling or use of offensive terms.
- Always portray the Academy in the best light travelling to and from school and when on trips.

Rewards include: praise, postcards and phone calls home, house Points and awards.

Consequences include: phone calls home, detentions, community service, work room, exclusion.

The decision of the Headteacher is final





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 do:

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

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 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



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.

Other subjects may opt to set homework but this is to help increase and apply the students learning in a variety of ways. Regularly completed high quality homework is always rewarded.



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 Thomas
Assistant Head



Miss Abbott
Safeguarding Officer

www.birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk



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



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 Thomas
Assistant Head



Miss Abbott
Safeguarding Officer



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

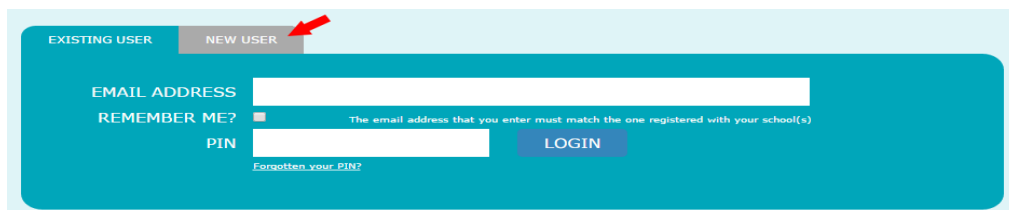


Creating an Account on SchoolComms

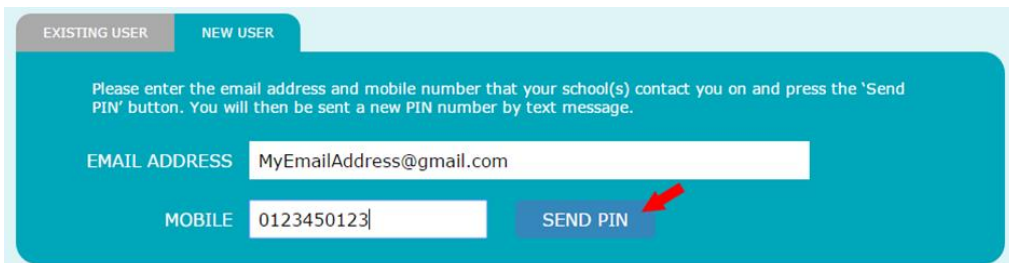
SchoolComms enables parents to pay for school dinner and other activities such as trips.

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.

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 Progress Leader. 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 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.

Kind Regards

The Birley Academy Ambassadors





Classroom Expectations

Before entering this classroom:

You must queue quietly in the direction indicated on the door
You will have your uniform checked

When entering this classroom:

You will be greeted at the classroom door by your teacher
You must 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
Get out all the equipment you may need for the lesson, including your school planner
Begin the work your teacher has asked you to do

During this lesson:

You must try your hardest to complete your best work
Always demonstrate your best behaviour
Remain seated unless your teacher instructs you to move

At the end of the lesson:

Pack up your equipment quickly and quietly
Stand behind your chairs in silence
Line up and walk out of the room when your teacher dismisses you





The School Day

Tutor time	Period 1	Period 2	Break	Period 3
8.40am– 9.00am	9.00am – 10.00am	10.00am – 11.00am		11.15am– 12.15pm
Period 4				
12.15 – 1.15pm			12.45 - 1.45pm	
Lunch 1 Year 9 & 11 12.15 – 12.45 pm	Lunch 2 Year 7 12.45 –1.15pm	Lunch 3 Year 8 & 10 1.15 – 1.45 pm		
Period 5	Intervention, Enrichment and Detention time			
1.45pm - 2.45pm	2.45 – 3.45pm As applicable			





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
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)
Year 5	Taster Sessions (June/July)



The Super Curriculum at The Birley Academy

THE CURRICULUM OFFER	
English	Blood Brothers Theatre Trip (Key Stage 4) Globe Theatre Trip (Key Stage 4)
Maths	The UKMT Maths Challenge (all years) Team Maths Challenge Pop Maths Quiz
Science	The Science Club (Year 7) Girls in STEM (Year 10)
MFL	Showroom cinema Visits (Year 7-9) Year 7 MFL Trip
Music	The Performing Arts Company (all years) Meet a Musician – Halle Orchestra Trip
Art	Gallery Visits (Year 10)
Geography	Castleton Visit – Mam Tor (Year 8) GCSE Geography field trips (Years 10 +11)
PE	Junior Sports Leader Award (Years 9 +10)
History	WW1 Battlefields trip in conjunction with the MFL department (Years 8 – 10)
Latin	Opportunity to learn and study Latin.
Inclusion Team	SEND Homework Club Every Monday and Wednesday 2.45 – 3.45 pm

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.

If a student does not uphold the high standards of behaviour expected at The Birley Academy they maybe issued with:

a 15/30/45 minute detention at the end of the school day, a daily report, a day or more in the student workroom and/or a fixed term exclusion/permanent exclusion.







Rewards Badges

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

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

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
- Blue / 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
- USB Memory Stick

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.

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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.

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Uniform



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)
- Academy shorts
- 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 tops and shorts. 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.

Uniform

Examples of Appropriate Footwear





Key Dates

Term Dates 2020-2021 **All Dates are inclusive**

Autumn Term 1: Friday 3 September until Friday 22 October 2021

Autumn Term 2: Monday 1 November until Friday 17 December 2021

Spring Term 1: Tuesday 4 January until Friday 11 February 2022

Spring Term 2: Monday 21 February until Friday 1 April 2022

Summer Term 1: Tuesday 19 April until Friday 27 May 2022

Summer Term 2: Monday 6 June until Friday 22 July 2022

Inset Days

Wednesday 1 September 2021

Thursday 2 September 2021

Friday 3 December 2021

Monday 6 December 2021

Monday 2 May 2022 - May Day Holiday

Friday 1 July 2022



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 specific subjects. Our goal is to share with students a passion and expertise in their areas 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
- Equip students with the knowledge, skills and qualifications needed to progress further
- Prepare 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 study a combination of:

- Food
- Graphics
- Resistant materials
- PE / Sport
- Engineering
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Health and Social Care
- Art
- Religious Studies
- 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 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 L.E.A.D. 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

Supporting Students Everyday



The Birley Academy

Supporting Students Every Day

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

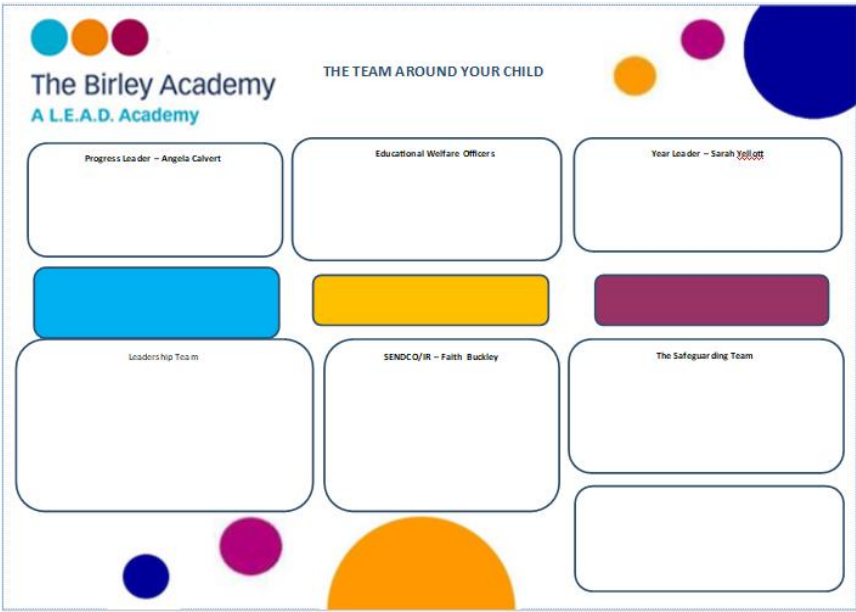
- A dedicated Form Tutor
- A dedicated Year Leader
- A dedicated Progress Leader
- A dedicated Social, Emotional & Mental Health Key Worker
- A dedicated SENCO and SEND department
- Weekly PSHE lessons
- Careers advice
- The Student Council
- 1:1 intervention and mentoring
- Personalised support packages




Team Around Your Child Document

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

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

Progress Leader – Angela Calvert	Educational Welfare Officers	Year Leader – Sarah Yeats
Leadership Team	SENDCO/IR – Faith Buckley	The Safeguarding Team

The Birley Academy Transition FAQs

September 2021 Intake Continued



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

What will happen if I get lost?

Yes, we have a big building however we have a fantastic set of student ambassadors and friendly staff who will make finding your way around very easy! If your room starts with a 1, it's on the first floor. If it starts with 2, it's on the second floor.

Will the school work be hard?

Work is set appropriate to ability and will challenge students to make progress. Teachers will support students to be successful in their work through a carefully designed curriculum and targeted teacher feedback.

What does a typical day look like for a year 7?

All year groups have Tutor Time, 5 Lessons, Break and Lunchtime. Year 7 will attend Tutor Time followed by Period 1 and 2. They'll then attend Period 3 and then the first half of Period 4. They will then have a 30-minute lunch on their own, away from other year groups. This is then followed by the second half of Period 4 and then Period 5 before the school day ends at 2:45 pm.

What time does school start and finish?

Students are expected to be in school from 8:35am then the school day begins with Tutor Time at 8:40 am sharp and lessons finishes at 2:45 pm when students may leave unless they are attending an extra curricular club, have a detention or are meeting a teacher. Students are allowed in the building from 8:00 am and are expected to be at Tutor Time promptly.

What Extra-Curricular activities can my child take part in?

There are a wide range of clubs and activities after school for students to engage with should they wish. In PE there is everything from football to dance and students of all abilities are welcome. In September a full list of our extra-curricular offer will be made available.

How do you deal with any friendship issues?

A students form tutor will be there to help support your child with any issues in the first instance. Further to this your child's year leader will provide support where appropriate.

The Birley Academy Transition FAQs

September 2021 Intake Continued



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

What happens if my son or daughter has additional needs?

We have been meeting with primaries and obtaining vital information around all students. However, if you have any concerns please send an email marked for the attention of Maria Thomas, our Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Adapted Curriculum.

Is there loads of Homework set?

Homework at Birley is meaningful and manageable. Students in year 7 will have homework which mainly focuses on Maths, English and Science. Other subjects may opt to set homework but this is to help increase and apply the students learning in a variety of ways. Regularly completed high quality homework is always rewarded.

Do I get rewards?

At Birley we regularly reward students for their hard work and effort. Students are rewarded in line with our vision of Lead, Empower, Achievement and Drive. Students are rewarded for having good attendance, taking part in extra curricular activities and being involved in other aspects of school life ranging from the school council to becoming a student ambassador. We reward students with certificates, specific subject rewards and also giving them the opportunity to attend celebration evenings.

What is there to eat?

Students are able to buy fruit and water at break time to help keep them going through until lunch. At lunchtime, there is a range of meals with vegetarian options available. There is a pasta bar and cold options such as sandwiches also available. We are able to cater for medical and dietary requirements. Each student has an account which can have money loaded onto it via Parent Pay for students to buy their food.

What equipment does my child need?

- Pencil case
- Black / blue pen
- Red pen
- Highlighter
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Ruler
- Protractor
- Calculator (preferably scientific)
- Dictionary

The Birley Academy Transition FAQs

September 2021 Intake



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

Will my son or daughter be with their friends from Primary School?

At The Birley Academy, we are keen to ensure all students have time to see their friends however classes and tutor groups are not decided based on friendship groups. Activities in Tutor Time are structured in the first instance to allow new friendships to be formed. In addition to this, lessons are for learning.

Who are the key staff who work with Year 7?

Each student at The Birley Academy has a team working around them that will include the form tutor, year leader and progress leader. Your child may also have other people working with you to support them, for example, the SENCO and/or the EWO. In September you will receive a Team Around Your Child document which will give you the names and contact details of all the relevant people.

Where do students go on their first day in September?

Students will enter the school on Thornbridge Road and make their way to the main doors where they will be greeted by members of the Leadership Team who will welcome them, reassure them and support them in understanding where they need to go.

If you have any additional questions please feel free to email:

transition@birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk