



Barrow Hills

SCHOOL



**WE ARE PREPARED
FOR GREATER THINGS**



CURIOUS



BRAVE



SCHOLARLY



COMPASSIONATE



GENEROUS



JOYFUL



TRUTHFUL



RESPONSIBLE



- 1 Main entrance
- 2 Visitor parking
- 3 Great Roke
- 4 Chapel
- 5 Parent parking
- 6 The Lower
- 7 St Albertus Magnus (Science laboratories)
- 8 Main hall and dance studio
- 9 Tennis courts
- 10 Woodpecker Fitness Trail
- 11 Cricket pavilion
- 12 Sports field
- 13 St Joseph's Centre (Art & Technology)
- 14 Thomas More Centre
- 15 Staff parking
- 16 St Cecilia Centre (Music)
- 17 Swimming pool
- 18 The Slope
- 19 Forest School
- 20 Astro pitch
- 21 Orchard
- 22 Adventure playground
- 23 Outdoor theatre
- 24 Formal gardens
- 25 Iron Age Roundhouse
- 26 Pre-Prep play area
- 27 Pre-Prep free flow area
- 28 Pre-Prep free flow area
- 29 Hardcourt play area
- 30 Pre-Prep play area
- 31 Techo house
- 32 Pre-Prep Forest School





Few schools are as leafy and inviting as Barrow Hills. Anything is possible here: learning the clarinet... taking part in a national hockey final... hatching ducklings... designing a prize winning habitat module for a mission to Mars... gaining an academic scholarship to senior school.



Welcome to Barrow Hills School, an independent co-educational day school and nursery welcoming girls and boys from 2 to 13 years of age.

Barrow Hills is renowned for its family atmosphere; a warm, aspirational, and grounded community with happy children. Committed to promoting mutual respect, curiosity of mind and independence of spirit, we place our courteous, sociable and responsible children firmly at the heart of all that we do, empowering their own vital journey towards accomplishment.

With expansive grounds providing excellent facilities that encourage play and exploration, we provide our children with a broad set of opportunities and an environment in which to freely experiment and develop their talents without fear of failure. Our Barrow Hills family has the unique advantage of governance by the Bridewell Royal Hospital Foundation, and close affiliation with our partner school, Kings Edward's Witley. Our school benefits from centuries of charitable history, links to the City of London and the generous shared resource an independent senior school provides.

Our skilled educators value every child with an individual focus to allow them to truly flourish. Our outcomes speak for themselves; "pupils are very successful within the formal curriculum and beyond" and "social development is of the highest quality." (ISI Inspection Report 2022).



Our leavers in 2024 attained 24 senior school scholarships and awards, alongside a 100% exam pass rate at 11+ or 13+, with 46% at A grade and above. Our children are 'Prepared for greater things', and are all set for their brilliant futures.

If our prospectus is your first experience of Barrow Hills, then may I extend a warm invitation for you to visit us in our historic woodland setting. Come and talk with the children and our staff. You will be delighted by their energy, joy and compassion. I look forward to seeing you at our School.

John Towers, Head



Learning is pure pleasure when driven by a child's natural curiosity

How many legs does a giant African millipede have? Pre-Prep became instant wildlife experts on the day that a visiting zoological team introduced its collection of weird and wonderful minibeasts. How many insects are there in the Barrow Hills woodland? Too many to count, but our Pre-Prep children still try to find out.

Pre-Prep's delight in the natural world around them is typical of the way that our children throw themselves into the adventure of discovery. Their curiosity is boundless. Going face-to-face with a hissing cockroach? Barrow Hills children really do want to know how that feels.



“It is lovely to see the children getting lost in their own imagination, being creative, being constructive and being self-motivated.”

Forest School Leader

Prepare to be
curious



Children learn that anything is possible if they're prepared to give it a go

In the spotlight, alone on stage, covered in warts and green face paint, there is nowhere to hide. It is now or never...

It was no surprise that Mr Toad's performance was faultless. Our Year 4 production of 'The Wind in the Willows' was a huge success. Of course there were nerves, but nothing that a happy cast of woodland creatures could not overcome. In this school, where we trust and support each other, we know that everyone – including a hushed theatre audience – is on our side.

Barrow Hills children are not afraid to try, understanding that it is better to have a go and fail well than not to have tried at all. Our supportive and nurturing environment promotes perseverance and resilience, useful skills that will stay with children for life.



Prepare to be brave



“From an early age children are given the opportunity to develop their presentation skills – in class and assemblies, and in a series of regular school performances and productions.”

Head of English and Drama

Prepare to be scholarly



Knowledge is useful, but understanding turns facts into wisdom



A Barrow Hills education has bite. When Year 3 bared their teeth for the school of dentistry, they learned what makes them omnivores, and which of their teeth would suit a lion or a llama.

Through practical activities like this, children learn to love the pursuit of knowledge. They discover that scholarliness is multifaceted; it may come from books, class discussions or checking their teeth in a mirror. Combine all three, and you have a child who understands why biting through a slice of toast is different to chewing it.

Our teaching incorporates the best of academic and creative practice and is delivered using state of the art technology. Our role as educators is to treat each child as an individual and provide support as they pursue their journey towards independence.

“I have no words to express how my heart is feeling comfortable, grateful, peaceful... I haven't seen my children at all today, and arriving home to happy children is the best thing that I could ask. Thank you very much.”

Reception parent

“The kindness and dedication of the staff have enabled our son to develop into a boy who enjoys school and has a passion for learning.”

Year 6 parent

Prepare to be compassionate

Put fun, kindness and love together with care, company and laughter. Once they are mixed add helpfulness, playfulness and a slice of friendship. This would make my perfect friend.

Year 3 friendship recipe



We are a family; we look out for each other

No child is left out at Barrow Hills. Our House system encourages children of different ages and temperaments to pull together through teamwork and shared projects. Older children look out for younger ones. Everyone is ready to lend a hand.

We take that ethos with us wherever we go; from the playground to the sports field and into the local community. Our children learn to make room in their hearts for everyone.

We believe that Barrow Hills is for the whole family - we build strong links with parents and encourage interaction. Education is most successful with teachers and parents working together.



When we give, it comes from the heart: time, praise, kind words, a helping hand

Our children know that all acts of kindness count - large or small, random or regular. Smiles, kind words and thoughtful gestures are as important as the many and varied charitable events run at Barrow Hills.

From Pre-Prep's sponsored silence, to the older children leading an initiative supporting young learners in Sub-Saharan Africa. From our regular parent run Friday breakfast butties to our staff led charitable activities, we get involved as a community.

Time, thoughtfulness, fun and big-heartedness go so much further when supported by the Barrow Hills generosity of spirit.

Prepare to be generous

“Children’s personal development is outstanding, reflecting a successful transition from childhood to adolescence... children of all ages thrive, are confident and are at ease with others.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate





Prepare to be
joyful



Children learn to celebrate the best in themselves, their classmates and the world around them

Wellies and waterproofs are essential uniform at Barrow Hills. Outdoor learning lends itself to practical engagement and appropriate risk taking. Our children use these opportunities in order to build their confidence, spatial awareness, physical and mental strength and are able to thrive in an ever-changing and unpredictable world.

Like much of what happens at Barrow Hills, indoor and outdoor learning rides piggy-back on youthful exuberance. Classes here are a joy to lead and a joy to be part of.

A photograph of four children in maroon school uniforms playing large, round, wooden drums outdoors. The children are smiling and clapping, creating a joyful atmosphere. The background shows trees and a building, suggesting a school setting. The text "Acres of friendship, adventure and lifelong memories" is overlaid in white serif font across the middle of the image.

Acres of friendship, adventure and lifelong memories

It's an outdoorsy, sporty school, but the arts and everything else on offer are equally strong. The ethos is about finding things that you like doing and getting the most out of life, and who wouldn't enjoy that?"

Independent review, Muddy Stilettos

Prepare to be truthful



If we are true to ourselves, we can be true to our friends

Barrow Hills children have plenty of space to understand and to care for themselves - and as much support as they need should things get tough. Our drop-in wellbeing room (named by our children as 'The Happy Hangout - A Place for You') is where children can talk about anything that troubles them.

Our children learn who they are and how they got there. Each has a unique, independent identity and all are encouraged to be positive, dream big and to believe in themselves and each other.





Education is how children learn to be adults

Responsibility comes naturally to Barrow Hills children. They demonstrate maturity and vision outside of the classroom in the ideas that they bring to the School Council. It could be a big event such as Grandparents' Day or creating a winter wonderland or those small things that make a difference, such as voting for their favourite breaktime snack or raising funds for new games to use in the playground.

In all aspects of school life, our children rise to their responsibilities: guiding visitors around the school, leading their teams to victory, representing the school at ceremonial events in the City of London, becoming peer mentors to younger children. They grow into every role we give them.

“Older children are trained as peer mentors and offer guidance to younger pupils.”

Deputy Head

Prepare to be
responsible



Prepare to experience Barrow Hills for yourself

Supporting the specialist teaching we offer at Barrow Hills, our children enjoy and benefit from a wealth of dedicated facilities.

We, and our children, love to show visitors round. We are proud of what we do.

To visit please contact our Registrar.

Telephone: +44 (0)1428 683639

Email: registrar@barrowhills.org

“I’M STRUGGLING TO THINK
OF CHILDREN OR PARENTS WHO
WOULDN’T LOVE THIS SCHOOL.”

Visiting Parent



Barrow Hills
SCHOOL

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