



HOUSE HANDBOOK

2021-22



WELCOME

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MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSEMISTRESS

Welcome to Marwood House. I have had the privilege of being Housemistress since September 2018, having previously been a tutor in both Longfield and Marwood. I teach Physical Education in Senior School.

I am here to ensure the wellbeing and welfare of girls in Marwood, aiding them with both pastoral and academic matters throughout their time at Barney. Marwood girls are asked to contribute to House and wider school life, push themselves out of their comfort zone and involve themselves in many of the opportunities offered here.

You can contact me through email at: marwood@barneyschool.org.uk or you are welcome to ring me in my office (+44(0)1833 696 058).

Best wishes,

Olivia Hovington





NICE

AMAZING

clumsy

CARING

CH

crazy

CLUMSY

Perfectionist

SPORTY

loud

BUBBLY

FRIENDLY

Quiet

Helpful

Small

Cheerful

OUR HISTORY

Marwood House was formed in 1993 for the exclusive use of day girls. It used to lie on the parish boundary of Marwood, hence its name, but moved to refurbished accommodation adjacent to the School field.

The Houses are a very important part of School life and they play a key role in achieving the aims of the school. Consequently the aims of the House broadly follow those of the school. We aim to create a supportive and comfortable environment in which pupils are able to mature and form relationships with other pupils whilst fostering independence and an ability to develop interests outside the House. The virtues of self-discipline, diligence, mutual respect and good citizenship are actively promoted. We support children in the transition from childhood towards adulthood, encouraging them to develop a sense of responsibility and self-respect.

HOUSE TUTORS

Tutors are the first port of call for parents/guardians wanting to contact the school regarding their daughter. Tutors are also responsible for morning registration and they report absences to the general office. Tutors routinely receive letters and/or emails from home and filter pastoral concerns to the Housemistress. Tutors are encouraged to take an interest in their tutees' wider development and to establish a dialogue, which recognises achievements in the classroom and beyond.

Tutors meet with the Housemistress daily and have an extended meeting each Wednesday at 08:40 prior to the weekly Marwood House meeting and may raise various issues relating to pupils' pastoral or academic performance. They encourage all of the girls to record their prep in their planner, and parents/guardians are encouraged to sign the planner on a weekly basis. It can be an easy way to pass information between school and home.

Tutors write an Academic Tutor Report for each pupil whenever a report or assessment is written by teaching staff. Academic Assessments and Reports are distributed to parents/guardians via the Parent Portal. Tutors also review academic and non-academic performances prior to the production of the bi-annual full reports. The pastoral section (House report) is written by the Housemistress.

OUR TUTOR TEAM

Girls are tutored with their year group by a member of staff and stay with that staff member all year. Marwood House has seven staff members each acting as a Tutor to a group of girls for a single year.

Year 7 Mrs Sarah Rothwell (SLR@barneyschool.org.uk)

I am Assistant Housemistress in Marwood and have been an Art teacher at Barney since 2011, as well as a tutor in Bowes House between 2012-2018. I am passionate about this job and enjoy teaching across age groups and celebrating achievements with exhibitions. I intend to brighten some of our walls in the House with pupils' work.



Year 8 Mrs Lucie Nicholson (LN@barneyschool.org.uk)

I came to Barney in 1998 as a student teacher, originally teaching English to the overseas pupils, as well as French in Prep School. I now teach EAL (English as another Language). I enjoy singing and have been a member of the school choir for many years and enjoy participating in the Christmas concerts. I also have an interest in sewing, recently taking over the school sewing club.



Year 9 Miss Christine Misiak (cm@barneyschool.org.uk)

I joined Barney and Marwood House in 2020, and teach Design & Technology, which is a very important subject as it encourages problem solving, creativity, teamwork and develops practical skills. I look forward to continuing to enthuse students in my subject and to make a difference in young people's lives at Barney. My hobbies include keeping fit and cycling. I also love the outdoors, camping and reading.



Year 10 Mrs Caroline Connor (CEC@barneyschool.org.uk)

I have been teaching Biology at the School since 2009 and am also the Contingent Commander of the well established CCF. My hobbies include running, horse riding and shooting alongside keeping my three young sons entertained. I have been a tutor in Marwood since 2013 and enjoy building up a good rapport with the all the girls in the House. Being a Year 10 tutor is extremely rewarding and the best piece of advice I can give to pupils is not to leave revision until Year 11.



Year 11 Miss Judith Brown (JB@barneyschool.org.uk)

I started teaching in the Department of Computer Science at Barnard Castle School in September 2004 and became Head of Department soon after. I thoroughly enjoy teaching a subject that changes on a daily basis and equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world. My other roles include Induction Coordinator which involves training and mentoring trainee and newly qualified teachers and I am also a Pilot Officer in the RAF Section of the School's Combined Cadet Force.



Year 12 Mr Mark Robson (MDR@barneyschool.org.uk)

Mark has worked at schools in Scotland, South Africa, Australia and Argentina. He joined Barney in September 2017 as Junior Boarding Housemaster and is currently is Head of Mathematics. He studied Mathematics at Durham University and was a chartered accountant with PricewaterhouseCoopers for seven years before training as a teacher. He enjoys all sports but maintains a particularly keen interest in his favourite sports of cricket and rugby, in which he is a qualified coach.



Year 13 Dr Sebastian Nichols (STN@barneyschool.org.uk)

I teach Latin and Classical Civilisation throughout the school, and I'm also responsible for the school's Enrichment programme for Gifted and Talented students; I also occasionally help with UCAS applications too. Outside the classroom, I compete for the title of BCS' Obsessive-in-Chief - anyone who has seen my desk will testify that I have an alarming propensity for rubbish sci-fi and fantasy (at least, I'm told it's alarming).





ROMAN

My Name's Doddie
foundation.com

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PUPIL POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Pupils have ample opportunity to take on responsibility throughout their time in Marwood House.

Each year, a member of the Upper Sixth is chosen to be the Head of House. A Deputy (sometimes Deputies) and House Monitors will be chosen to support her. These positions generally go to girls who are wholehearted, trustworthy, approachable, and who set a good example. These senior pupils are expected to accept some responsibility for the organisation of House practices and are expected to be role models for younger pupils.

As experienced members of Marwood House, those in positions of responsibility have a varied role; this could range from being on duty in Marwood, disseminating information to other pupils or being the first point of contact for a pupil who has an opinion they wish to channel or a problem they feel they would prefer to air with another pupil.

In addition to these senior roles pupils from all years are asked to volunteer for various school committees, including:

- Anti-bullying Committee
- Academic Committee
- Sports Committee
- Food Committee
- Charity Committee
- Environmental Committee

One pupil from each year group will be asked to volunteer to run for School Council. Each house enters one representative per year group in the election.

HOUSE COMPETITIONS

Wednesday afternoons 4-5pm are reserved for Inter-House Competitions and House Activities. All pupils are expected to take part or support these activities without exception. There are a myriad of activities and competitions meaning that there is something to suit everyone. Each term culminates in 'Nailing Up', when the winning boys' House and girls' House are announced and they are invited to nail a plaque to their House shield. In the Michaelmas term, the main competition is House Hockey, in the Lent Term, House Singing and House Cross Country Running (the Barney Bash & Barney Run) dominate our time and, in the Trinity Term, we focus on athletics, culminating in Sports' Day. There is also an Inter-House Merit Competition that runs each term. Other House activities/competitions include:

- Art
- Cake Decorating
- Charades
- Chess
- Dodgeball
- Drama
- Football
- Pool
- Public Speaking
- Quiz
- Rugby
- Scrabble
- Shooting
- Singing
- Squash
- Table Tennis



HOUSEKEEPING

Accommodation:

There are four Common Rooms in Marwood House organised as follows:

Junior: Years 7 and 8

Intermediate: Year 9

Senior Years: 10 and 11

Sixth Form: Lower and Upper Sixth

Each pupil has an individual locker with a padlock (if they choose to bring a padlock) where she can store books, Games kit and personal belongings. Pupils are encouraged to keep a spare key in their file in the House Office.

Girls are free to visit their House at any time during the day, except during lessons. They may visit other Common Rooms in Marwood and Bowes. Sixth Form girls from other Houses are also permitted to go into the Sixth Form Common Room.

A member of House staff generally visits common rooms at break, lunch and between 4.00-5.00pm.

House Subs:

Each pupil is charged £10 once a year to help fund the House. This is put on the School bill. The money is used to help make the common room a more homely environment. It is also used for awards and to help provide additional material for House activities.



A group of schoolgirls are gathered in a wood-paneled room, likely a common room. The walls are covered with numerous small plaques, many of which are labeled 'CRICKET' followed by a year. The girls are dressed in winter clothing, including jackets and scarves. One girl in the foreground is wearing a bright yellow jacket and glasses. The atmosphere appears to be casual and social.

DAY-TO-DAY

Registration

Registration takes place each morning by House tutors and is completed between 8.30-8.45am and then again by teachers at the end of lunchtime. This is recorded electronically in a central School database, an absentees list is produced after each registration session closes, which is after 08:50 and 13:50 each day. If a pupil is absent from School her parents/guardian must ring the House Office or send an email before 8.40am. If a pupil arrives late to school they should register themselves at the General Office.

Wednesday House Meetings

House meetings are held each Wednesday at 8.55am in the Senior Common Room. The Housemistress leads the meeting. Each meeting starts with the School notices and the Upper Sixth are encouraged to read most notices. More important notices are read by the Housemistress. There is generally a review of the previous week followed by preparation for the following week. House Tutors have an opportunity to address the House, as does the Head of House and her Monitors.

HOUSE EVENTS

House Service/Celebration

This is held biennially to celebrate the students of Marwood House, their achievements, our house history and to showcase some of the talents of our current girls. All Marwood girls, their parents and former members of House are invited to attend.

House Competitions

Parents are invited to attend House sports fixtures including the Barney Run, House Hockey, House Netball and Sports Day . House Drama and House Singing are very busy so we cannot accommodate spectators at these events.





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REWARDS AND SANCTIONS

Headmaster's Certificates are also awarded for receiving over 20, 30 and 50 merits in a term. The House also awards weekly prizes to the girl with the most merits each week.

An award is made each term to the member of the House who, in the opinion of the House Staff, has contributed the most to that term. They are awarded with a 'Trier's' Trophy. The girl that volunteers to do the most House activities each term is also awarded with the 'Holmes Activities' Cup. Additionally, each week there is a 'Marwoodian of the week' who is nominated by pupils and staff and the person with the most nominations across the term will win the 'Marwoodian of the term' trophy.

If academic progress or behaviour is below a satisfactory standard, it may be necessary for a pupil to be placed on report for a short period. This requires teachers to comment upon work and conduct on a lesson by lesson basis and is taken home for a counter signature each day of the sanction period. The Tutor reviews and signs the report each day and contacts home if they see the need for more dialogue. The Housemistress and Tutor will liaise if such action needs to be taken.

Sanctions for inappropriate behaviour in School are not common. Mundane matters are quickly dealt with by House Tutors. More serious matters should be referred to the Housemistress or the Assistant Housemistress. Serious infringements must be referred to the Senior Management Team.

CONTACT WITH HOME

Routine home contact will happen via assessments, reports and parents' evenings. The Housemistress or Tutors generally make phone calls to address other issues as they arise. Parents are encouraged to call the Housemistress if they have any issues they wish to address. Parents should expect a call from their daughter's Tutor if they have any immediate concern about attendance, lateness and academic progress. Parents can also contact Tutors to request a meeting in person or on the phone.

There is a direct telephone line to the Housemistress' study (01833 696058) which parents and guardians are encouraged to use freely to discuss any aspect of their child's education. The Housemistress is in the House Office by 8.10am most days, between 16:00 and 17:00 most days and a member of staff will be there at lunchtimes (13:15-13:50). The Housemistress can also be contacted by email at **marwood@barneyschool.org.uk**. Parents and guardians are welcome to arrange meetings with the Housemistress and/or their daughter's Tutor at any point throughout the term.

The school sends out a weekly email with any pertinent letters that staff wish parents to read.

We hope this gives you a flavour of life in Marwood House, and excites you as you prepare for life at Barney. The key thing to remember is that there is always someone on hand to help - that is very important to us.





THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THIS BUILDING
WAS LAID BY EARL FORBESQUE
ON THE 6th NOVEMBER 1855.





BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL