



# HOUSE HANDBOOK

2021-22

A green flag with a crest is displayed on a black pole. The crest features a yellow cross on a grey background, with a yellow star above it and a yellow scroll below it. The word "WELCOME" is written in white, serif, all-caps font across the center of the flag. The flag has a gold fringe along its edges. In the background, a white balustrade is visible, with a blue shield-shaped crest mounted on it. The crest on the balustrade contains a yellow scroll, a yellow star, and a yellow crescent moon. The scene is set indoors, likely in a grand hall or library.

WELCOME

# CONTENTS

4. WELCOME FROM THE HOUSEMASTER
6. OUR HISTORY
7. HOUSE TUTORS
8. OUR TUTOR TEAM
11. PUPIL POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY
12. HOUSE COMPETITIONS
14. HOUSE KEEPING
16. DAY-TO-DAY
17. HOUSE EVENTS
19. REWARDS AND SANCTIONS
20. CONTACT WITH HOME
23. NOTABLE OLD BARNARDIANS: TEES HOUSE

# MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSEMASTER

Welcome to Tees House. I have had the honour of being Housemaster of Tees since 2017 having previously been a Residential Tutor and Assistant Housemaster in Northumberland House. I teach Computer Science, serve as a Lieutenant in the school Combined Cadet Force, help to run the Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh scheme and run the school Climbing Club.

The ethos of Tees House echoes the simple sentiment that pupils will “get out what they put in”. Pupils who get stuck in and embrace the opportunities that Barney offers will reap the massive rewards that come hand-in-hand. As Housemaster, I value energy and commitment but I also like to see humour, independence and a sense of community. One of Tees’ greatest strengths is its history of success in house competitions and the wonderfully long list of current and former pupils who excel in academics and in extra-curricular achievement.

Best Wishes,

Henry Fairwood





## OUR HISTORY

Tees House is a boys' day house. It was formed in 1982 when the single existing day-boy house, then called Teesdale House, was divided into Tees and Dale houses. Day pupil numbers have grown since those times and in the nineties a third day-boy house, Durham House, was introduced. Tees House is currently home to around 70 boys who share one large and three small common rooms. Housed on the top floor of the Main School building it boasts one of the finest views in school; overlooking the playing fields and beyond.

# HOUSE TUTORS

Tutors are the first port of call for parents/guardians wanting to contact the school regarding their son. 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 Housemaster. 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 Housemaster daily and have an extended meeting each Wednesday at 08:40 prior to the weekly Tees House meeting and may raise various issues relating to pupils' pastoral or academic performance. They encourage all of the boys 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 pupils 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 Housemaster.

## OUR TUTOR TEAM

Boys are tutored with their your group by a member of staff and stay with that staff member all year. Tees House has seven staff members each acting as a Tutor to a group of boys for a single year.

### **Year 7 Mr Neil Toyne** (NT@barneyschool.org.uk)

Mr Toyne is a Maths teacher and is also responsible for producing the school timetable; juggling 75 staff, 60 rooms and over 450 pupils making him the ideal candidate to keep tabs on and tutor a group of year 7 boys.



### **Year 8 Mr Andrew Dunn** (AMD@barneyschool.org.uk)

Mr Dunn joined Tees House in 2016 from York House. He is a highly-respected hockey coach and teaches Physics and Computer Science. Mr Dunn also runs the School Future Business Magnates.



### **Year 9 Mr Peter Foster** (PAF@barneyschool.org.uk)

Mr Foster joined the school in September 2020 as a Geography teacher. He loves to see the world; visiting places such as Bagan in Myanmar, Lake Toba in the Philippines, Tikal in Guatemala, and has recently lived in China. He is a keen swimmer and scuba diver, having dived in places such as the cenotes in the jungles of Mexico and a volcano in Guatemala. He is also Assistant Housemaster of Tees House.



**Year 10 Mrs Erin Beaty** (EEB@barneyschool.org.uk)

Mrs Beaty teaches English and runs the school Lectern Club. A Canadian, Mrs Beaty enjoys travelling, films and walking her dogs, Dixie and Wilson. Christmas is her favourite time of year and she updates the 'Countdown to Christmas' board in her classroom daily.



**Year 11 Dr Kevin Cosstick** (KBC@barneyschool.org.uk)

Dr Cosstick joined the School in 2013 and is a teacher of Chemistry. A father of 2 girls and a keen Brighton & Hove Albion FC supporter, Dr Cosstick coaches the 1st XI football team and also enjoys skiing, playing pool, cooking and looking after his tarantula, axolotl, snake, cats and fish. He is a local magistrate, so it is pointless disagreeing with him!



**Year 12 Mr Charles Alderson** (CHA@barneyschool.org.uk)

Mr Alderson joined Barney in 1998. In addition to being a Tees House tutor he is full-time Head of Higher Education, making him an ideal sixth form tutor. He also manages the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme and is district secretary for SW Durham Schools' Athletics Association and organiser of the Barnard Run and Barney Bash. He takes the running group in senior games, supports the fell-running fell running club and is a regular on the junior ski trip.



**Year 13 Mr John Gedye** (JDG@barneyschool.org.uk)

Mr Gedye is Head of Classics and former Housemaster of York House. Currently in charge of activities, squash and cricket, Mr Gedye doesn't take his eye off the ball. Passionate about house competitions and teamwork, he will encourage all Tees boys to get stuck in, get involved and compete with pride for the house.





## PUPIL POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

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

Each year, a member of the Upper Sixth is chosen to be the Head of House (House Captain). A Deputy (sometimes Deputies) and House Monitors will be chosen to support him. These positions generally go to boys 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 Tees House, those in positions of responsibility have a varied role; this could range from being on duty in Tees, being trusted to staff the House tuck shop, 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 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 Rugby, 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

## **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. Tees House has two pool tables, a table tennis table and a füssball table. All recreational hardware (pool cues and table tennis bats) is paid for by Tees from funds generated by house subs and tuck shop profits. It is also used for awards and to help provide additional material for House activities.

## **Security**

Boys are allocated locker space and encouraged to use it to keep property safe. Locks are the responsibility of the pupil and valuable items can be kept here or given to the Housemaster for safekeeping in his office, which is located next to the common rooms. Pupils are encouraged to give a spare key for their locker to their tutor in case they forget or lose one. The Housemaster or the maintenance staff lock Tees House each evening.





## DAY-TO-DAY

### **Registration**

Pupils register in Tees House each morning before Chapel service or assembly. Registration is taken in Tees House by Tutors every morning at 08:45 and by teachers at the end of lunchtime. This is recorded electronically in a central School database, and 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 his parents/ guardian must ring the House Office or send an email before 08.40.

### **Wednesday House Meetings**

Wednesday is important to the House as it provides an opportunity for a weekly whole-House Meeting. This meeting gives the Housemaster a chance to brief the pupils on weekly goings-on, and address issues involving the whole house. It is also the chance to applaud involvements and achievements. Merit Prizes are awarded each week in the Junior, Intermediate and Senior age categories.

# HOUSE EVENTS

## **House Service/Celebration**

This is held biennially to celebrate current and former pupils of Tees House, their achievements, our house history and to showcase some of the talents of our current boys. All Tees boys, their parents/guardians and former members of Tees House are invited to attend.

## **House Competitions**

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





## REWARDS AND SANCTIONS

Pupils are awarded merits/distinctions for good work and strong assessments (the very best are given a Headmaster's Certificate) and these are celebrated in House meetings . 'Good Egg' awards are given termly for good conduct and acts of kindness are also given and announced at 'Nailing Up'. Weekly merit prizes are awarded in Tees House. A number of termly and yearly trophies are also awarded in Tees House; some recipients are chosen by the pupils, some by the House Monitors and some by Tutors. House trophies have been donated by departing and former pupils; such gifts are always gratefully received.

If academic progress is below a satisfactory standard, the tutor may instigate an academic report for a short period. This requires teachers to comment upon work and/or conduct on a lesson-by-lesson basis and is to be taken home for countersignature each day. The Tutor reviews the report each day and will contact home if they see the need for more dialogue. More serious infringements of school rules would be referred to the Deputy Head (Pastoral). Parents may also be invited to a meeting to discuss the progress of their son.

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 Housemaster or the Assistant Housemaster. 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 Housemaster or Tutors generally make phone calls to address other issues as they arise. Parents/guardians are encouraged to call the Housemaster if they have any issues they wish to address. They should also expect a call from their son's Tutor if they have any immediate concern about attendance, lateness and academic progress. Parents/guardians can also contact Tutors to request a meeting in person or on the phone.

There is a direct telephone line to the Housemaster's study (01833 696037) which parents and guardians are encouraged to use freely to discuss any aspect of their child's education. The Housemaster 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 Housemaster can also be contacted by email at **tees@barneyschool.org.uk**. Parents and guardians are welcome to arrange meetings with the Housemaster and/or their son'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 Tees 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 27th NOVEMBER 1843.



## NOTABLE OLD BARNARDIANS: TEES HOUSE

I am happy to tell you that your son is following in the footsteps of some notable alumni and we would hope to add his name to a list in the future that contains such diverse characters as:

Tony & Rory Underwood, International Rugby players

Guy Wilks, Rally Driver

Matthew & Alex Tait (2004) Professional rugby players

Athol and Eamon King , GB U18 Sailors

Robert Dinwiddie, Pro Golfer

Thomas Adamson, member of the England Fly Fishing Team

James Close, a Michelin starred Chef at the Raby Hunt

Giles Deacon, fashion designer (designed Pippa Middleton's wedding dress)

Professor Duncan Lorimer, Astrophysicist at West Virginia University

Richard Parkinson, Professor of Egyptology, Oxford University



BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL