



BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

SENIOR SCHOOL RULES

PRINCIPLES

All of the School Rules can easily be observed by being a good citizen and a true Barnardian. This means:

1. Acting in accordance with the Christian values of the School at all times
2. Respecting ourselves and other people
3. Respecting our School's property and its good name
4. Being truthful and honest in all of our dealings
5. Being intolerant of bullying or unfairness in any form
6. Helping others whenever we can
7. Exercising good manners and courtesy to everyone
8. Striving for success in everything that we do
9. Maintaining high standards of appearance and punctuality
10. Working in harmony with School staff to make ourselves and our School even better

No set of rules can cover every point, but the following are designed to act as a guide to all pupils as to what is expected in the way of conduct in and out of school hours.

A. ATTENDANCE

1. All pupils should have registered with their Tutor by 8.50 am, and are expected to remain on the school site until 5.10 pm (12.10 pm on Saturdays), unless they have their Housemaster's permission to leave before that time.
2. Attendance at all school functions throughout the day (which includes Chapel or Assembly, lessons, games and meals) is compulsory.
3. Except in case of illness, permission for absence from school must be requested in advance from the Headmaster via one's Housemaster/Housemistress. Permission will be granted only in compelling circumstances. This particularly includes the start and finish of each term and half-term, the dates for which are published well in advance.
4. If a pupil is involved in an activity (e.g. a music lesson, field trip or games fixture)

which would necessitate missing a class or other school event, permission should be sought from all relevant members of staff in advance. Permission to miss a class does not mean permission to miss a prep.

5. Any pupil who is unfit for games should present a note from parents or the Medical Centre Sister to House and games staff.

6. Pupils who are selected for any school activity (e.g. a games fixture) from Monday to Saturday are expected to honour that commitment.

7. For pupils below the Sixth Form, a signed chit from their Housemaster or Housemistress is needed before going into town before 5:10pm. School uniform should be worn for visits to town and the highest standards of behaviour and courtesy are expected of pupils at all times when in public. Food should not be eaten in public and the only approved route into town is via Newgate.

8. Day pupils should have left School by 5:15pm on Weekdays and by 12:15 pm on Saturdays unless they have permission and a legitimate reason to remain in School. Any pupil who needs to stay at school outside normal school hours or during any holiday or who takes part in any event, expedition or course organised by or through the school (either in term-time or during the holiday) should be aware that normal school rules apply.

B. TRAVEL

1. However pupils travel to and from school, they should do so in full school uniform, smartly worn. Any pupil wearing school uniform represents the school and is therefore subject to school rules.

2. The Headmaster's permission should be sought before any pupil drives a car or motor-cycle to school. A special form for this is obtainable from the Headmaster's Secretary. Pupils' cars must not be driven or parked above the car park on the main drive, and must not be used during the school day. No pupil is allowed to offer or accept a lift in another pupil's car without the written permission of both sets of parents.

3. Bicycles may be ridden to school providing a helmet is worn. They may not be ridden in the school grounds and the school is not responsible for accidents or damage caused.

C. PROPERTY

1. The borrowing of money, clothing or equipment is not allowed, nor is the buying or selling of items without permission.

2. Any damage to property should be reported immediately. It is accepted that accidents happen, but the school will take a serious view if they are not reported, or if the damage is caused deliberately. This specifically includes the defacing of property with graffiti which is regarded as vandalism.

3. No food, cutlery or crockery may be taken out of the Dining Hall.

4. Pupils should not bring valuable items or large sums of money to school. Boarders are urged to use the House banks, and Housemasters/Housemistresses of all pupils are happy to ensure the safe-keeping of any valuable items or money which pupils may on occasion need to bring into school. The school does not accept responsibility for personal belongings or money, which should be insured either under a specific policy or under any householder's comprehensive policy which parents may have.
5. All books issued by the school remain the property of the school and should be treated with respect. Any book (including stationery books) lost, damaged or defaced will be charged for.
6. All personal property should be clearly marked with the owner's name.
7. Any electrical appliances brought into the school must be checked by the Maintenance Department before use. The electrical installations of the school must under no circumstances be modified.
8. Computers and mobile devices, whether belonging to the School or one's own, should always be used in accordance with the School's Acceptable Use Policy. Such devices are powerful tools for gaining knowledge and good communication, and should never be used in a way that is hurtful or offensive.

D. APPEARANCE

1. Pupils should ensure that at all times their dress, hair and appearance comply with the school's regulations and are a credit to the school.
2. All items of uniform so indicated on the school uniform list must be purchased from the Brookes Outfitters in Barnard Castle. It may be possible to buy some non-badged items elsewhere, but the appearance should be consistent with School standards.
3. All clothing and footwear should be clearly marked with the owner's name. Boarders' clothing also needs to be marked with the owner's school number.
4. Hair should be neat, in the owner's natural colour, and avoid extremes of fashion. Boys' Hair should not be unduly long.
5. Leisure wear may be worn by boarders after 5:10 pm on Mondays-Fridays, after 12:10pm on Saturdays (apart from those representing the school in games fixtures) and all day on Sunday (apart from Chapel, for which the dress code will be published in advance).
6. Jewellery should not be worn, with the exception that girls may wear a single small plain stud or ring in the lobe of each ear, and a single plain ring. They may be required to remove these for safety reasons during games time etc.

E. BOUNDS

1. The following are out of bounds to all pupils:

- a. Licensed premises, off licences and betting shops.
 - b. Staff houses (except by invitation), the kitchens, the maintenance and boiler house areas, and the domestic quarters.
 - c. Other Houses, unless the Housemaster's/Housemistress's permission has been obtained.
 - d. The front doorway of the school before 5:10 pm on Mondays-Fridays and before 12:10 pm on Saturdays. It is a privilege of school monitors to use this door at all times.
 - e. Rear access to Barnard Castle – all pupils must use Newgate.
 - f. The River Tees, unless part of a properly organised and supervised activity.
 - g. Locations such as roofs or fire escapes which, without proper authorisation and supervision, are manifestly dangerous.
2. Housemaster's/Housemistress's permission should be sought before any visitors other than family members are invited into the school.
 3. All boarders need their Housemaster's/Housemistresses's permission to leave their Boarding Houses once Prep has started.
 4. There are other rules published concerning specific areas of the school - e.g. swimming pool, science laboratories, sports hall, ICT rooms and boarding houses - and pupils need to be aware of these.

F. GENERAL

1. The possession of tobacco, alcohol or controlled drugs is forbidden, as is the bringing to school of dangerous articles, fireworks or similar. Any prescribed medicines other than asthma inhalers should be handed to the Medical Centre Sister for safe-keeping and administering as appropriate.
2. The school has a clearly defined anti-bullying policy and will take a particularly serious view of any incident of bullying (verbal or physical), harassment or racial abuse.
3. Litter should be placed in the bins provided and every effort made to keep the school a litter-free environment.
4. No gambling of any sort is allowed.
5. In the unlikely event of any class being without a teacher five minutes after the scheduled start of any lesson, a member of the class should go to the General Office for guidance.
6. The Headmaster's permission should be sought before organising any activity which involves the collection of money from other pupils (i.e. sponsorship).

7. The Headmaster's permission should be sought before any contact is made with any members of the Press on any matters relating to the school.
8. The school's fire procedures must be strictly observed at all times. Any interference with the school's fire-fighting equipment will be particularly seriously viewed.
9. Day pupils should have good reason to be on School property beyond 5:15pm during weekdays, after match teas on Saturdays and all day on Sundays. A good reason typically means an activity organised and overseen by a member of staff.
10. Boarders are under the authority of the school throughout term time unless they are with their parents/guardians or other responsible adult approved both by parents and the school. Day-pupils become the responsibility of their parents when at home, with the proviso that the school reserves the right to discipline any pupil who engages in any activity likely to bring the good name of the school into disrepute or who is in breach of the law of the land at whatever stage of the year.

G. SERIOUS BREACH OF RULES

A serious breach of School Rules may result in suspension or expulsion from the School. Such a breach may include:

1. Breaking the law of the land.
2. Persistent attitudes or behaviours which are inconsistent with the ethos of the School, such as persistent failure to complete academic work or continual failure to cooperate with members of staff.
3. Actions which bring the School into disrepute.

