

A vibrant watercolor splash in shades of green, purple, pink, red, orange, and yellow. In the center, there is a white outline of a crest or shield. The crest is divided into sections: the left side has concentric lines, and the right side has a floral or heraldic pattern.

LEARNING @ HOME WITH PREP SCHOOL

BARNARD CASTLE PREP SCHOOL
A GUIDE TO HOME LEARNING



***"Sometimes you will never
know the value of a moment
until it becomes a memory."***

Dr Seuss



As we enter the next phase of our Learning@Home programme, nobody can be sure of what the future holds and what will happen next. However, what you can be confident in, is that with the support of Prep School staff, an **interactive, high energy and engaging** programme will be implemented during these extraordinary times to ensure continuity of your child's education. I believe that the wonderful thing about learning is that no matter where you are, learning never stops and no one can take it away from you.

The Learning@Home programme that we have designed has taken into consideration all the lifestyle changes that we as families have had to embrace; parents working from home, families with several children, limited technological devices. The key principle underpinning this programme must be **flexibility**. We do not expect parents to be teachers within this process, purely facilitators, to act as support as and when your child needs you. At Prep School, we are always listening, which is why our programme continues to evolve at every stage in response to the needs of our school community.

Many thanks to all of you who completed the survey over the May break, and in particular the generosity and kindness of your words, as well as your empathy and understanding as we have tried to react to what is going on around us. We have taken on board your feedback offered, and you will hopefully get a sense of this as you read through these pages, as we continue to work together in response to this new way of doing things.

At the start of the process we stated we would try and keep to routines as much as possible. To that end assemblies, reward certificates, House events and activities have continued as normal. Our pastoral programme has remained a strength, with daily interaction between teacher and child throughout the day. This term we will see more virtual face-to-face contact with class teachers and children as these extraordinary times continue.

We are grateful for the overwhelming support parents have already given to the programme. We are unaware of when, and if we will return to normality, but I am certain that through the strength of our Prep School community, we will return to school stronger and more united than ever before; after all that is 'The Barney Way'.

Stay safe.

Laura Turner
Prep School Headmistress



T O G E T H E R A P A R T



P U R P O S E

Our **School's Purpose** is as follows:

Through creating an inspirational, compassionate and unpretentious environment, we aim to develop young adults with character.

They are happy, confident, resilient, intellectually curious, tolerant and driven, with an undercurrent of humility, who are ready and prepared to face, embrace and lead in an ever changing world.

How does this look or change during this pandemic?

We want to ensure that Barney pupils are ready to face, embrace and lead now and in the future, therefore our **School's Purpose** does not change. There are key principles we have tried to keep at the core of our offering, to ensure we do not lose sight of our overarching purpose.

THE LEARNING @ HOME PRIORITIES

PROGRESS

on all levels

STABILITY

Retaining a sense of calm & reassurance

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Staying connected

WELLBEING

Promoting positive mental health

PURPOSE

Continuing character and academic development

THE FIVE Cs OF HOME LEARNING @ BARNEY

Our **School community** sits at the heart of everything we do. It is even more important at this time that our pupils, staff and wider community remain connected.

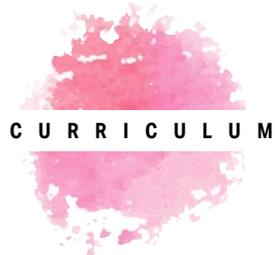
Care: We want to ensure each and every child feels connected; with the school and with their peers. Positive mental health and wellbeing is a challenge in any environment, but especially more so now. It is imperative that regular engagement and pastoral care is at the heart of this programme.



Character: This is such a central component of a Barney education, and a focus on continuing to develop this is of vital importance.



Curiosity: Now is not the time to shrink back into shells, but to be even more curious about the world around us, and also reflect upon our own character and personality. Independence and ownership are two exciting opportunities for our children.



Curriculum: Both academic and enrichment activities continue to have breadth and opportunity for all ages, with a key focus on our School's purpose and principles.



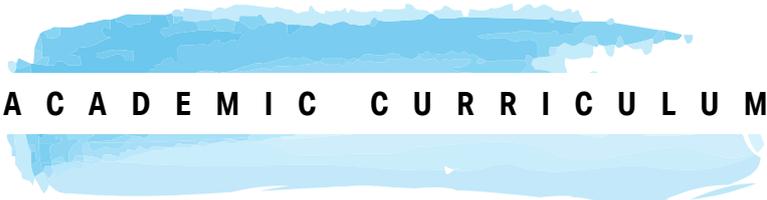
O V E R V I E W

At Prep School, our Learning@Home programme has three key objectives:

1. To provide **engaging** teaching and learning for pupils at home, which will enable pupils to continue their academic progress.
2. To provide a flexible, **sustainable** academic and non-academic programme which provides high levels of interaction, enrichment and engagement for every Preppie.
3. To provide excellent pastoral **support** for pupils and families.

Accordingly, the programme is split into two distinct parts:

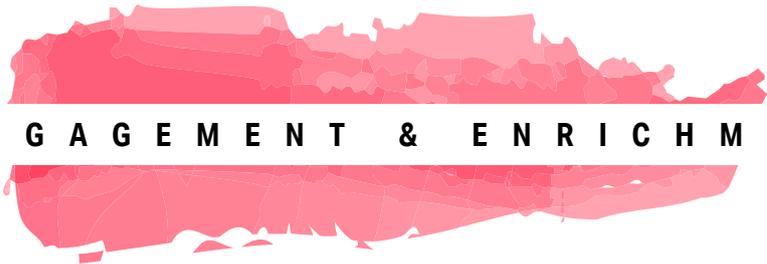
1. The Academic Curriculum: the teaching of the curriculum, in line with the normal academic requirements for each year group.
 2. Engagement and Enrichment: to provide stimulation, engagement, and interaction with others, as well as a sense of community and belonging.
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A C A D E M I C C U R R I C U L U M

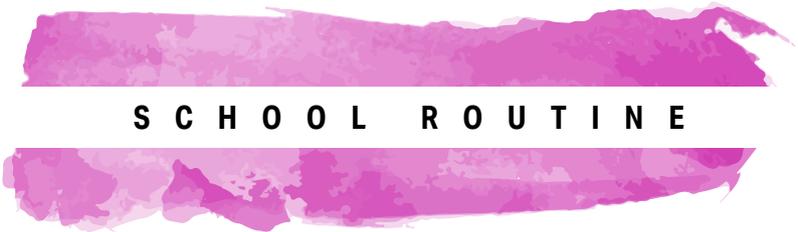
Our academic offering will continue to **support** all our pupils, helping them to make progress and enjoy learning albeit in a different way. The support received from Prep School will enable you to support your child and will provide for pupils of all abilities.

We know that contact with teachers and peers plays a key part in a pupil's motivation and understanding and so we have ensured that both **group interaction** and **personal contact** feature daily, despite the physical distance.



E N G A G E M E N T & E N R I C H M E N T

We know that Prep School is so much more than an academic education and being at home does not change this. We will continue to provide a variety of opportunities for pupils to **engage** with us and to enjoy enrichment outside lesson time. These include Chapel services and assemblies, clubs and activities, House activities, class pastoral time, life skills challenges and physical and mental wellbeing guidance.



SCHOOL ROUTINE

Throughout the pupils' time Learning@Home, we will maintain the **routine** and **structure** that school provides wherever possible. This will include:

- Monday morning assembly with our 'Theme of the Week'
- Tuesday challenge assembly
- Prep School Chapel Service with Father Darren every Wednesday
- House Event or Special Mention assemblies every Thursday
- "The Barney Buzz" continues to be shared every Friday with news from across the school, sharing of pupils' successes and supportive ideas for families
- Class Time will continue to take place daily, utilising **Microsoft Teams** (see separate guidance)
- Merit awards and Headmistress's Commendations will continue to be awarded to the pupils
- Weekly clubs and activity grids will be provided



P R E - P R E P

Pre-Prep pupils will continue to receive teaching and learning appropriate to their level of development. This will be predominantly from their class teacher, with additional lessons from Languages, Music and PE specialist teachers.

Parents will receive an email containing daily Maths and English tasks a day in advance, in preparation for the day ahead. Details of tasks for all other subjects for the week ahead will be sent in the Sunday evening email.

Whilst pre-recorded video teaching will continue to be provided, there will also be two optional daily **interactive** pastoral and two optional daily **interactive** warm up sessions (Maths/English), in which pupils can choose to take part. We acknowledge that these will not fit within every family's routine and access to devices may cause issues, so any interactive session will be uploaded to the Prep School YouTube channel as soon as possible after it has taken place. Should you be able to participate in these **live sessions**, we strongly recommend that you have all necessary resources and equipment to hand before the session begins.

The timetable below is an example of what a typical day may look like, should you appreciate some guidance.

8:30 am	Assembly	
9:00 - 9:10 am	Take part in live registration/class time with class teacher using Microsoft Teams	
9:30 – 10.30 am	Take part in live Maths warm up activity – using Microsoft Teams (recorded and shared for children unable to attend)	
	Maths lesson and completion of the task	Teachers available for support on Microsoft Teams with Maths and English tasks. (9:40 am - 12:00 noon)
	Take a break	
11:00 – 12.00 pm	Take part in live English warm up activity using the Microsoft Teams (Recorded and shared for children unable to attend)	
	English lesson and completion of the task	
12:00 noon	Lunch Break	
1:00 pm	Choice of subject from weekly overview	Teachers available for support on Microsoft Teams with tasks from weekly overview. (1:00 pm - 3:00 pm)
	Take a break	
2:00 pm	Choice of subject from weekly overview	
3:00 pm	Class Time using Microsoft Teams (recorded and shared for children unable to attend)	
3:15 pm	'Physical 5' activity and/or choice of activity from weekly club and activity grid	

A horizontal, textured orange brushstroke that serves as a background for the text. It has a watercolor-like appearance with varying shades of orange and some darker spots.

P R E P

Pupils will receive a **daily email** from their class teachers explaining the Maths and English learning tasks for that day. In addition to this a **weekly overview grid** will also be included in Monday's email, detailing learning tasks for other subjects.

With the exception of a pupil following **live interactive** sessions, no specific timetable is expected to be followed and we have left this to be interpreted by different households as they see fit. Our Maths and English lessons will be provided through a combination of an **optional interactive** lesson warm up for Maths and English and pre-recorded video lesson content. The interactive lesson warm up will be recorded and uploaded to the Prep School YouTube channel as soon as possible, or it can be followed along with the attached lesson video provided daily. Regular online and offline support from teachers will continue to be provided for all Prep School pupils.

The timetable below is an example of what a typical day may look like, should you appreciate some guidance.

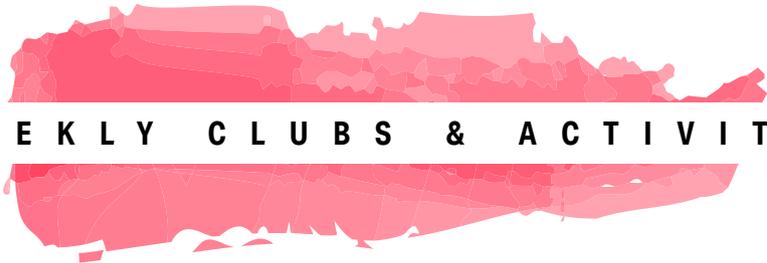
8:30 am	Assembly	
9:00 - 9:10 am	Take part in live registration/class time with class teacher using Microsoft Teams	
9:30 – 10.30 am	Take part in live Maths warm up activity – using the Microsoft Teams (recorded and shared for children unable to attend)	
	View Maths lesson video and complete task	Teachers available for support on Microsoft Teams with Maths and English tasks. (9:40 am - 12:00 noon)
	Take a break	
11:00 – 12.00 pm	Take part in live English warm up activity using Microsoft Teams (recorded and shared for children unable to attend)	
	View English lesson video and complete task	
12:00 noon	Lunch Break	
1:00 pm	Choice of subject from weekly overview	Teachers available for support on Microsoft Teams with tasks from weekly overview. (1:00 pm - 3:00 pm)
	Take a break	
2:00 pm	Choice of subject from weekly overview	
3:00 pm	Class Time using Microsoft Teams (recorded and shared for children unable to attend)	
3:15 pm	'Physical 5' activity and/or choice of activity from weekly club and activity grid	



ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

A varied programme of extra-curricular opportunities is available to pupils of all ages each week. Participation in these is not compulsory but we know that being part of Prep School is so much more than taking part in lessons and that these are a popular part of the day for our inquisitive, energetic Preppies. Our programme provides:

- Weekly clubs and activities
- Exercise and Wellbeing activities
- House activities
- An assembly with the Headmistress
- A weekly life skills challenge from the Headmistress
- Chapel Services
- Individual paid for lessons (LAMDA and instrumental)



WEEKLY CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

As highlighted in our Parent Survey, our weekly activities programme is highly valued by pupils and parents and we see it as vital that it continues. We suggest that pupils use the activities and clubs as a reward for when they have completed their tasks for the day, as a way of letting off steam, relaxing during a busy day or to be productively occupied while other family members are using the family computer.

Each week the Prep School staff will provide a grid of clubs and activities from which pupils can choose. As usual, these will encompass many areas of interest from ball skills, card tricks and gardening to choir and Spanish. A new selection of activities will be emailed to pupils every Monday. Photographs of activity participation can be emailed to prepschoolclubs@barneyschool.org.uk and will be shared in 'The Barney Buzz' each Friday.



EXERCISE AND WELLBEING

These elements of our pupils' week are always high on our agenda at Prep School. This is reflected in the daily exercise '**Physical 5**' programme that is provided for every pupil and the sporting skills and activities that are part of the weekly clubs and activities list. We also recognise that many families have in addition to this programme been following their own exercise regimes. Pupils are encouraged to share fitness and sporting milestones and achievements, and these are duly recognised in the weekly newsletter 'The Barney Buzz'.

Each child has a different Mindfulness and Forest School activity detailed as part of their weekly curriculum. We encourage pupils to recognise that **happiness** and **wellbeing** are of paramount importance and these activities are of benefit.



THE HOUSE SYSTEM

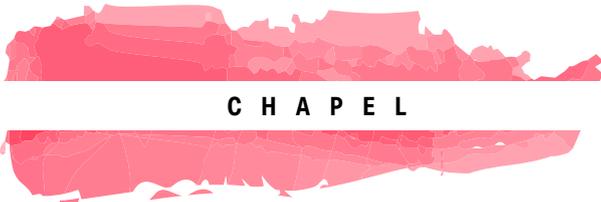
House activities take place on alternate Thursdays, and these are either of a competitive nature; House Art or House Science for example or designed to promote a sense of **community** like our House Rainbow-Making collaboration. Whilst we have endeavoured to keep all termly competitions running, we have also adapted some ideas to suit the current situation.

Merits will still be awarded, and weekly House totals will be shared in assembly each week.



H E A D M I S T R E S S A S S E M B L Y

The Headmistress will send a link via email to assemblies on Mondays and Tuesdays. Monday's assembly will contain the 'Theme of the Week' and Tuesday's will challenge pupils to attempt to master a variety of age-appropriate life skills.



C H A P E L

So that we can still worship as a community on Wednesday mornings, a link will be sent to all pupils and families to Father Darren's weekly service.



L A M D A & M U S I C L E S S O N S

LAMDA and individual instrumental lessons can be timetabled with your child's usual teacher and the fee added to your bill as normal, please do contact prep@barneyschool.org.uk



S U P P O R T

Headmistress – Mrs Turner – let@barneyschool.org.uk

Deputy Head – Mrs Bale – clb@barneyschool.org.uk

Academic Support – Class teachers should always be the first point of contact

Pastoral Support/DSL – Mrs Robertson – rar@barneyschool.org.uk Telephone: 07741 560332

Prep School Pupil Support – 'The Barney Burrow' (Year 3-6 only) – theburrow@barneyschool.org.uk

Enrichment – Mrs Bale – clb@barneyschool.org.uk

School Counsellor – Mrs Thirling – dt@barneyschool.org.uk

School Independent Listener – Mrs Ewart – 07810 087980

School Chaplain – Father Darren – drm@barneyschool.org.uk

Technical Support – ictsupport@barneyschool.org.uk Telephone: 01833 696040 and leave a message

THOUGHTS SO FAR

Thank you for all your positive feedback and constructive messages that have been sent in throughout our absence from school; they have been hugely appreciated.

"Thank you for all your hard work in making this home school arrangement work so smoothly. Starting with the assembly and then all of the work and activities delivered by you and your colleagues each day (as well as the instant feedback). Your efforts have made it an easy situation to adapt to."

"The whole experience has felt very calm, organised, efficient and the warmth towards the children has remained very clear and focused. Thank you for all your hard work."

"I feel so thankful to be supported by the school during this extraordinary time and we are all grateful for all your care, hard work and excellent organisation."

"You are doing an absolutely amazing job, keep going you couldn't have done anything any better! We love the videos each morning!"

"If your intention was to provide an exciting and varied learning experience, you have achieved it. Well done Prep School!"

"We are having a brilliant time at our house and finding ALL the work brilliant and easy to access from you and all the teachers. I am delighted. Thank you"

"My child has thoroughly enjoyed their home learning and the quality of your lesson videos has meant that they have been able to work independently"

"Just wanted to thank you for your efforts for providing a wonderfully rich curriculum for my girls. It has been really easy for them to access and all self-explanatory with very little help needed."

"I just want to say "you're all doing an amazing job". My sister sent a link to complete a questionnaire about home schooling - whilst filling it in, there was one section asking how happy with the school's support and various methods of communication. I'm proud to say that I was able to tick every box! You are really making this as great for us as possible, fantastic work, thank you!"



LEARNING@HOME WITH PREP SCHOOL