



BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

# Teacher of Computer Science and Digital Media

From September 2024



INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS



# The History of Barnard Castle School

---

Barnard Castle School has its roots in the medieval past and its eyes set firmly on the future. The school traces its origins back to the nearby Hospital of St John, which was an educational and religious community established by John de Balliol in 1229. He was also the founder of Balliol College in Oxford and his passion for learning remains central to our philosophy today. In 1883 with a gift from Benjamin Flounders, a Victorian philanthropist, and the proceeds of St John's Hospital, the present main School building was constructed. Tony Jackson, the School's tenth Headmaster, was appointed in September 2017 as "Barney" embarked on an exciting new era.

## The School

---

***'When you are steeped in little things, you shall safely attempt great things'***

This motto perfectly sums up what **Barnard Castle School** - or 'Barney' as it is affectionately known - aims to do in preparing its pupils for life beyond its doors. Through creating an inspirational, compassionate and unpretentious environment, Barney aims to develop young adults with character. Our staff believe that our pupils should be confident, resilient, intellectually curious, tolerant and driven, with an undercurrent of humility, and are prepared to live, embrace and lead in an ever-changing world.

***'Parvis imbutus tentabis grandia tutus'***

The School has a genuine warmth amongst its **720 pupils** and **180 staff**, which fosters a strong sense of community and endeavour. It is highly unusual to find a school where pupils from Year 9 and Year 11 sit at a table for lunch together sharing a conversation, discussing their latest sports fixture or drama rehearsal. However, this attitude is ingrained in a Barnardian from very early on. The co-educational and cross-year group atmosphere starts in the journey from the Preparatory School (ages 4-11) right through to the state-of-the-art bespoke Sixth Form Centre in the Senior School (ages 11-18). A Barney pupil is quick to make someone else feel at ease, whether that is through simple encouragement or a warm smile.

Whilst we are extremely proud of what our pupils achieve academically, we also recognise the importance of preparing the next generations for an evolving and increasingly competitive global marketplace. To do this, we focus on developing the individual character of every child, and during their journey with us, we aim to cultivate vital life skills through building relationships amongst the pupil body and teachers alike. Each pupil has a dedicated Tutor who meets with them several times a week to discuss anything from pastoral issues to academic progress.

We want our pupils to develop a balanced mindset for life. This requires confidence, resilience and compassion, all built up over a period of time, and in a variety of ways, both within and beyond the classroom. It also requires that most important quality: humility. At our core is an unpretentious and humble outlook, and it is this combination of confidence and humility that allows our pupils to light up a room.

We want staff who believe in our purpose as educators and are proactive in immersing themselves in school life during term time. We would like them to role model the qualities we hope to install in our pupils throughout their journey from the Prep School through to the end of the Sixth Form. Teachers are expected to take part in the extensive extra-curricular "Mind, Body and Soul" programme that runs between 4pm and 5pm and can choose to offer an activity that they are passionate about. We believe in fostering lasting relationships and contact time with pupils outside the classroom is what makes the Barney difference.

# The School (cont'd)

---

The School is situated in its own extensive grounds on the outskirts of an historic market town, recently noted as being the safest in England, in an area of outstanding natural beauty. It is well-resourced and enjoys an enviable reputation for its pupils' achievements on a broad variety of fronts. It is also in proximity to and enjoys close relationships with departments in the universities of Durham, York and Newcastle.

Continuous improvement and investment have produced a number of new buildings, including the MacFarlane Building which houses Physics and Computer Science, the Atha Fitness Centre, an extension to our Prep School including a new Science Lab, and the new purpose built Sixth Form Centre.

Further details about Barnard Castle School may be found in the Independent Schools' Yearbook and on the School's website **[www.barnardcastleschool.org.uk](http://www.barnardcastleschool.org.uk)**.

## Our Vision

- To be viewed as the leading independent co-educational boarding and day school in the North of England.
- To foster the concept that 'Barney is for Life', imbuing a real sense that to be a Barnardian is something special and life-lasting.
- To make an impact: in Barnard Castle, County Durham and the wider world.
- To place the School in an even stronger position for future generations to enjoy all the benefits of a Barney education.

---

## Our Purpose

- 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.







# Job Description

---

## Job Title:

**TEACHER OF COMPUTER SCIENCE & DIGITAL MEDIA**

## Reporting to:

**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**

### Overview Expectation

To teach effectively, encourage independent learning and enable pupils to develop the knowledge and skills required to prepare them for a rapidly changing world. This is a full-time role.

### Overall Responsibility

- To teach according to the timetable, ensuring that teaching is inspirational and creative. The role would involve teaching any year group from Year 7 upwards.
- To be aware of the need to differentiate work and challenges according to the ability of the pupils, whilst maintaining high expectations of all and taking full account of any Special Educational Needs.
- To work as part of a team, in harmony with and for the furtherance of the school's ethos and declared educational aims and priorities.
- To be supportive of the department's aims, agreed teaching styles, methods of assessment and other policies.
- To set written assignments or other creative pieces of work that involve a finished product (Prep) regularly and mark them promptly and in accordance with School and Departmental policies, ensuring that formative comments are always helpful and make helpful suggestions for further appropriate improvement in learning.
- To provide parents with written reports on their students' work and progress according to current school policy and to attend parents' meetings.
- To take a share of supervising duties, invigilation and cover for absent colleagues.
- To be responsible for the supervision, control and proper use of teaching rooms, materials and resources, and to have regard to health and safety issues and regulations.
- To attend weekly staff meetings and other meetings that may be called from time to time, as required by the Headmaster.
- To report in a timely manner any concerns about students and their learning progress to the appropriate colleague.
- To report in a timely manner any concerns regarding Child Protection or Bullying to the appropriate colleague.
- To take responsibility for one's continuing professional development and, to this end, to participate in Development and Review procedures as directed by the Headmaster.
- To contribute to Barnard Castle School's broad and active co-curricular activities programme.

### Department-specific responsibilities

- To teach KS3 Computer Science, OCR GCSE Computer Science, Cambridge Nationals Creative iMedia, OCR A Level Computer Science and Cambridge Technicals Digital Media.
- Delivering, assessing, and moderating A Level programming projects.
- Leading the departmental moderation process of all non-examined assessments and liaison with external moderators.
- Preparation of samples of NEA candidate work for submission to the exam board.

### **Expectations as a member of Barnard Castle School Common Room**

- To have high professional standards and so be an appropriate role model of reliability, behaviour and appearance
- To relate to children in an atmosphere of trust, frankness and ambition and to engender a climate of mutual respect
- To make sure that pupils meet the School's expectations of them
- To facilitate the development of children's confidence, self-esteem, determination, responsibility and personal pride in achievement, behaviour and appearance
- To understand that offering a well-rounded education means engaging beyond the classroom, and therefore contributing to the wider life of the Barney education. This is in the form of delivering extra-curricular activities or helping take teams.
- To contribute to marketing the school and to promote the School to prospective pupils and parents
- To establish and maintain high standards of communication with pupils, staff and parents
- To uphold all the policies of Barnard Castle School
- To take an interest in how the School functions and to convey suggestions for improvement to the Senior Management Team and Headmaster from time to time
- To subscribe to the Common Room's ethos of inclusivity, collegiality and helpfulness

**In order to meet the high standards expected of a leading professional in our School, the Headmaster is seeking to employ a person with the following qualities, experience, skills and abilities.**

### **Support**

The Teacher will be appraised by the Head of Department and will also have a review with the Headmaster but routine communication will be on going. Professional development is encouraged and will be discussed as part of the Teacher's Review and Development cycle.

### **Essential Criteria**

- A good honours degree in Computer Science;
- Evidence of being an excellent teacher;
- A genuine enthusiasm for the subject and the ability to inspire and motivate children;
- Clear and effective communication skills;
- An ability and willingness to make a contribution to the extra-curricular life of the School;
- An ability to relate well to colleagues and children;
- Approachability, accessibility and flexibility, with high levels of organisation;

### **Desirable Criteria**

- A higher degree or experience of educational or subject-specific research;
- A willingness to promote Computer Science in and out of the classroom;
- A record of and commitment to continuing professional development;
- The possession of QTS;
- Experience of working in a boarding school;
- The ability to develop and maintain effective relationships with all members of the school community;
- Sympathy with the Christian values of the School and the nature of working in a boarding environment;
- A willingness to take part in and organize subject-specific trips.

# Recruitment Process

## Barney Application Process:

**If you feel that you can meet the above requirements,** then please submit a letter of application along with the Barnard Castle School application form to the Headmaster. Only applications containing the requested information will be considered.

### **Applications should be sent to:**

Mr A C Jackson  
Headmaster  
Barnard Castle School  
County Durham  
DL12 8UN

Phone 01833 696098

Fax 01833 638985

E-mail [hr@barneyschool.org.uk](mailto:hr@barneyschool.org.uk)

### **Closing Date**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 9.00am**

## Information about Interviews:

*Applicants should read carefully the application procedure – guidance for applicants, Policy on the Recruitment of Ex-offenders and the Disclosure policy and the Safer Recruitment policy.*

*Barnard Castle School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and all applicants will undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and an enhanced DBS and Barred list check with Disclosure and Barring Service.*

*Barnard Castle School is an equal opportunities employer.*

