We believe in our potential to exceed all expectations and to have a unique impact on the world
Headteacher’s Welcome

I am delighted to welcome you to The Barclay School. It is my privilege to lead the School on its journey back to good.

The school’s main aim is to develop our students’ potential to the full and to help them grow into successful, caring and respectful young people. In order to achieve this, Barclay provides a safe, supportive environment within which student’s academic, cultural and emotional needs are met. The school motto – “Believe, Achieve, Exceed” – underlines the opportunities for all members of the Barclay community. There is outstanding pastoral support so that our students are able to engage with the curriculum, make progress and enjoy what the school has to offer.

We are ambitious and set ourselves challenging objectives. This is an exciting time for Barclay as we are improving the quality of teaching and learning. Our dedicated and hardworking staff team have a real commitment to ensuring that students have the opportunity to make progress and enjoy success.

We set high expectations and, as a result, our students are smart, well behaved and respectful. They have many opportunities for enrichment, both in school and through a range of educational visits, to enhance the learning in the classroom.

I hope that you find this prospectus helpful. We look forward to welcoming you back to The Barclay School.

Mark Allchorn
Headteacher

“This is a really good school, there are lots of clubs and the students and staff are very friendly”

Year 7 student September 2017
## Our Core Values

**Believe! Achieve! Exceed!**

Our 5 core values are reflected throughout the prospectus and are

| **We believe** | in our potential to exceed all expectations and to have a unique impact on the world |
| **We are proud** | to be members of the Barclay School and believe that education empowers us to shape our futures |
| **We value** | learning and welcome new opportunities and experiences |
| **We strive** | to make the relationships between all members of our school community warm, positive and encouraging |
| **We work** | our hardest and take pride in what we achieve and celebrate the achievements of others |

## Exam Success!

Barclay is celebrating the best GCSE results in 4 years.

We also have the best A level results for three years, showing significant improvement across all key performance indicators. Students achieved 100% A* and A in A Level Further Maths.

The overall pass rate for A level was 95%, with 70% achieving grades A* to C and 45% A* to B. Almost all students were thus able to access their choices for university.

The Barclay School is celebrating its best GCSE results in 4 years. Students performed strongly at a time of significant change in the exam system and downward pressure on results. Overall, 53% of students achieved grades A* to C (9 to 4) including English and Maths. 65% achieved grades 9 to 4 (the old A* to C) IN English language or Literature and 64% grades 9 to 4 in Mathematics. These good results were reflected across the subject range, with particular highlights in Biology 98% A*to C, Chemistry and Physics 91% A* to C, Religious Education 87% A* to C, 43% A*/A, Physical Education 86% A* to C and Geography 31% A*/A.

Overall, students achieved 199 A/A* (or equivalent) grades. Individual students achieved exceptionally well, and in addition to full sets of As, William Clare achieved 5A* and a 9, Joe Newton and Hage Deitsch 3 A*s, Sarangy Sathyan and Alex Haskins 2 A*s. Fourteen students achieved at least 3 grade As. Four students achieved the top grade in English and two in Maths.
Our Curriculum

Teaching and Learning

Our teaching and learning focus ensures students are able to access a broad and varied curriculum which interests them and engages them in their work and school life. It is essential that students do well in the core academic subjects; Mathematics, English, Science, Humanities and Languages. We also encourage students to participate in Technology, Sport, Performing Art subjects and extra-curricular activities. Investment in staff development and training combined with careful monitoring of attainment and progress helps to ensure that students meet their goals.

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 to 9)

All subjects are taught by specialist teachers. Students are given the opportunity to achieve in a variety of disciplines and to acquire skills and knowledge which will provide the basis for future learning. Students are taught in ability sets in English, Film Studies, Maths, Science, Geography, History, Religious Education, Modern Foreign Languages, Art, Music, Drama, PE, ICT, Food, Textiles, Resistant Materials, Graphics and Personal and Social Education. In addition to these subjects in Year 8 and 9, some students will have the opportunity to study Spanish or French.

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

All students continue to study English Language, English Literature and Maths. Students will study for three separate sciences in Physics, Chemistry and Biology; a number of students will study for two.

All students will continue to participate in Personal and Social Education and Physical Education classes. In addition, students select a further five subjects in which they have particular strengths or which lead to a chosen career. These provide students with a range of skills and knowledge which allow them to progress to a wide variety of further courses.
Key Stage 5 (Years 12 and 13)

Students can select up to 3 A levels from a range of subjects which include:

- Art
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Design Technology
- Drama
- Economics
- English
- Further Mathematics
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Politics
- Physical Education
- Psychology
- Sociology

The following vocational courses are open to all students:

- Applied Art (Single and Double)
- BTEC Sport (Single and Double)

Our curriculum is designed to support all students in pursuing their individual career and life ambitions. In this curriculum we embed the vital skills expected by employers of team-work, problem solving, risk taking and leadership, underpinned by a solid foundation of literacy and numeracy. We also believe strongly in rewards and praise to encourage our students to work to their full potential in all areas of their studies.

We are proud of our students, many of whom go on to become very successful in life. Our students regularly gain places at Oxford, Cambridge and many more top universities. As importantly, many students who excel in sports or arts gain places at Central St Martins, the BRIT School or professional sporting academies in the UK and abroad. Our students have also been very successful at obtaining apprenticeships which allow them to progress directly into the world of work.
Happy Students Thrive at Barclay

We have a fantastic pastoral system which supports all of our students from the time they join us through to the Sixth Form.

Our care and support structure has been recognised as a key strength of the school.

We run a transition programme for Year 7 and 12 students in order to support them in having the best possible start to a new phase in their education.

Students have a dedicated form tutor who is the main contact for every student. The tutor plays a crucial part in the academic, personal and social development of the students in the tutor group. The tutor will act as the main point of contact between the students, home and teaching staff and plays a key role in the effective running of the school's pastoral system.

Each year group is additionally supported by a Head of Year and we have dedicated Pastoral Support Leaders who work with all our students in a supportive way, developing a caring, working relationship with students. This enables students to have a sense of identity and belonging and for them to feel that they are valued both as an individual and as part of the school community.
Rewards

We have a rewards system which encourages students to take pride in their work, their appearance, and celebrates their successes, perseverance and contribution. We encourage a culture of resilience, caring for others, courage and confidence. We aim to equip all of our students to leave Barclay with the skills and qualities to enable them to be successful in their chosen career path and to ensure they are valuable citizens making a great contribution to society.

Our reward system is split into 5 tiers and students receive merit awards for the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bronze</th>
<th>Achievement • Effort • Character</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>Contribution • Resilience • Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Independence • Perseverance • Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platinum (½ termly)</td>
<td>5 per faculty - Head of Faculty • 2 per tutor group • 1 per year group - Head of Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barclavian (½ termly)</td>
<td>1 per year group - Headteacher/Senior Leadership Team</td>
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Working in Partnership with Parents

The working relationship with our parents/carers is key in enabling us to provide the very best education and support to our students. We communicate with parents on a regular weekly basis to share the successes of their children. We send out regular newsletters each term and use social media and our website to celebrate our achievements.

Parent Information Evenings

We provide Information Evenings at Barclay to share new initiatives and information about the teaching and learning. The Parent Consultation Evening is later in the year when there is more to discuss with subject teachers. Your child’s form tutor can be contacted at any time regarding their progress. Full details are available on our website.

Student Voice

There are numerous avenues for our student voice to be heard and we have a senior member of staff dedicated to creating and supporting Student Leadership opportunities. We have an active school council and a range of representatives in all areas of school life. Student voice is very strong at Barclay. Our new behaviour for learning policy introduced this year was developed with our students. Students form a vital part of the interview process when recruiting team members to senior and middle leadership roles.

“We’re so impressed by the very thorough options process to help our daughter make the right choices for her future at Barclay”

Year 9 parent.
Enrichment and Extended Curriculum

Our clubs and activities programme has been developed in order to enrich learning experiences of all our students and we are confident that there is something for every student and we actively encourage them to join in.

We have a very active Music and Drama department who run a number of productions on our school stage every year. We are very much looking forward to our production of Peter Pan this year and our students are currently working hard on their rehearsals.

We have a Karting Club at Barclay which we are proud to say has been running since 1969. The main founders of the group are still with us today!

We run a wide range of trips and visits including an adventure activity in Year 7 and 12 during September each year to give the students the opportunity to get to know their peers and tutors better in an informal and fun way.

We also run a number of residential trips to support our students learning of their subject area, countries visited include Italy, France, Germany, Spain, and Belgium.
**Exciting New Developments**

**Sixth Form Centre and Drama Studio - new rebuilding programme planned to open in September 2018!**

**Phase One**

The Barclay School was successful in its bid to the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) and has been allocated £1.5M to spend on rebuilding the 6th Form Centre to provide brand new facilities as part of the Priority Schools Building Programme 2 (PSBP2). We will also have a new state of the art Drama studio being built for all students to enjoy.

**Phase Two**

A feasibility study has been completed which identified all of the aspects that needed to be considered when developing a project like this. Careful attention has been paid to the environment, location of services, potential costs of the work and risk assessments.

**Phase Three**

The design has been developed and is out to tender with contracts to gain best value for the project. Planning permission has been awarded and we are hoping to start the work early in 2018. This is being managed by the school and a team of consultants with the Building Management Team at Hertfordshire County Council.

**Phase Four**

Construction! The old Sixth Form Centre and Drama studio is being demolished and completely rebuilt. The new building will be unrecognisable from the building we have today. A fantastic space for our students to work in and enjoy!

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At Barclay we are part of Stevenage Sixth, the largest Sixth Form Consortium in Stevenage. We are able to offer the widest range of courses to interest students. 750 students will access courses across the campuses of Barclay, Barnwell, Marriotts and Nobel School to meet their individual need.

Sixth Formers have a range of responsibilities and privileges to help them develop into independent adults and prepare them for life at university or work.

We provide excellent support and advice to ensure students make informed course choices that facilitate pathway options for the future. We expect students to aim high for leading universities or higher level apprenticeships which most meet their needs.

Our Head Students and Student Leadership Team have developed an excellent ethos of commitment to their own work, great team spirit and enjoyment of their involvement across the school as mentors and ambassadors with younger students.
“You will always make friends here”
Year 7 student September 2017
Our Community

We are very proud to have an active role in our local community.

We support a number of charities throughout the school year and have run events to support charities initiated by our own students. Each Christmas we visit a number of venues including old people homes with our student choir and band.

We have the Barclay School Parent Association (BSA) which helps the school by raising funds to support our needs. It recently purchased new basketball hoops and a number of outdoor table tennis tables. We are proud that our facilities are used by a wide range of organisations, from our Karting Club, Stage School, Community Church and a number of local junior football teams.
Believe! Achieve! Exceed!
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