



Bacon's College
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning



Parent Handbook

Year 6 to 7 Transition

WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Year 7 Students and Parents,

A very warm welcome to Bacon's College.

Starting secondary school is an important milestone, and we are delighted that you have chosen to join our school community. We know that this is an exciting time for students and families alike, and we are committed to making the transition to Year 7 a positive, enjoyable, and successful experience for every child.

At Bacon's, we believe that every student has the potential to achieve great things. Our role is to provide the support, encouragement, and opportunities that help young people grow in confidence, develop their talents, and achieve academic success. As a Church of England school, our values of respect, kindness, service, and ambition are at the heart of everything we do, helping us to create a community where every student feels valued, safe, and able to thrive.

One of the things that makes Bacon's special is the strength of the relationships between our students, staff, and families. We are proud of our diverse and inclusive community, and we look forward to getting to know each of our new students as individuals, celebrating their unique strengths and supporting them to become happy, successful members of our school.

We are excited to welcome you in September and to begin this journey together.

With best wishes,
Mr J. Wilson



OUR VALUES

Mission Statement

Bacon's College ensures that every student is well educated, cared for and exhorted to achieve the academic and personal excellence that will lead to university or skilled work and to a fulfilled life, encapsulated in the words of John:

**"I came to give life, life in all its fullness"
John 10:10**

Bacon's College is a fully inclusive Church of England academy that is open to students of all faiths and none. Our Christian values, which are upheld by all members of our community, lie at the heart of our mission and ethos. They are: Courage, Compassion, Respect, Faith and Integrity.

These are the values of a loving and compassionate God, seen in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ, and lived out through the Holy Spirit. We enrich student's lives with these values to inspire them to achieve academic and personal excellence.

Courage

- The Bacon's Lion is the symbol of courage and strength.
- A Bacon's student has the courage to follow their convictions, to challenge injustice, to persevere in order to succeed and to remain steadfast in the face of adversity.

**"Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged,
for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go"
Joshua 1:9**

Compassion

- Bacon's students follow Christ's example by giving generously to those in need, placing others before themselves, supporting each other and loving their neighbours.

**"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."
John 13:34-35**

Respect

- Bacon's students believe that everyone - regardless of race, faith, gender, sexuality or social status - is unique, special and loved by God. We respect all people as equals and without prejudice.

**"Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell in unity"
Psalm 133:1**

Faith

- A Bacon's student draws strength and endurance from faith in family, staff and friends as well as from their own abilities and beliefs. We are a loyal school community.

**"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."
1:2 Timothy 4:7**

Integrity

- A Bacon's student acts with integrity in all their deeds and words. We are honest and admit to our mistakes. We achieve wholeness (integer) through being truthful and of good character.

**"May integrity and honesty protect me, for I put my hope in you."
Psalm 25:21.**

A Christian act of collective worship is provided for all pupils every day. All teachers attend all acts of collective worship. Time allocated to collective worship is not part of the curriculum time.

Worship takes place as follows:

MONDAY	Whole College Assembly
TUESDAY	Year Assembly or Morning Prayer followed by Whole School Reading
WEDNESDAY	Year Assembly or Morning Prayer followed by Whole School Reading
THURSDAY	Year Assembly or Morning Prayer followed by Whole School Reading
FRIDAY	Year Assembly or Morning Prayer followed by Character Development (PSHE, Careers, Values, Ethos, School Council, etc.)

Teachers, Heads of Year, senior leaders and tutor groups lead collective worship on a rota basis, and pupils often lead tutor group worship.

TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION

The parent/teacher/school relationship can feel different at secondary school. Your child will be taught by up to 10 different teachers, so you are unlikely get to know them as well as their primary teachers. Your child may find there are some whose style they prefer to others. Try not to be too concerned about this – it is quite common.

Your child will be taught by subject specialists who are passionate about their curriculum areas, so do not be surprised if your child develops an enthusiasm for new subjects.

Form tutors have a pastoral role as well as being subject teachers, so these should be your first port of call with any general worries. You will be introduced to your child's tutor before the first day of term in September.

The best way to contact a member of staff is often via email. Subject teachers have full teaching timetables and will aim to respond in 36 hours. Contact the school office if it is urgent.

Parents' evenings are usually held once a year at Bacon's College and consist of appointments to see a number of teachers, often with your child present too. Year 7 students and parents/carers are also invited to a Tutor Consultation Evening early in the new autumn term.

Details of Parents' Evenings and other important dates can be found at

www.baconscollege.co.uk/college-life/term-dates-key-dates/parents-evenings

It is imperative parents and guardians support the school in terms of rules and expectations – this leads to a more productive relationship.



PASTORAL CARE

At Bacon's College, we firmly believe in the importance of good communication between staff and parents. We will send you information about our courses, homework and the school on a regular basis. Information is posted on our school website, e-mailed and messages are sent by text.

We aim to work in partnership with you to ensure that your child has access to all school resources. We value your support and encourage you to become actively involved in your child's education.

It is absolutely vital that as a school we have at least 2 contact telephone numbers for your child in case we need to contact you in an emergency.

We also send out most of our communication via email, therefore we must also have an up to date email address for every parent/carer.

Academic progress reports are issued every term and each year group has a parent/subject teacher meeting once a year.

You are welcome to contact us to discuss your child's progress. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor or Subject Teacher. You can do this by writing a note in your child's planner, or writing to the Teacher or Form Tutor via post or email.

If you would like to visit the school for a meeting, please contact the relevant staff member to make an appointment at a time convenient for parents and staff.

If your child is absent and you have not contacted the school, you may receive a text message requesting that you contact the school.

Form Tutor

Students are placed in registration groups, referred to as Tutor Groups. Form Tutors meet their tutees every morning from 08:25 – 09:00am. The Form Tutor is a very important person in your child's school life and it is his/her role to provide support educationally, personally and socially. They will help your child to make the most of the opportunities the school offers. Form Tutors also monitor progress, attendance and punctuality and generally help your child to fulfil their potential. If you have any questions, your first point of contact is your child's Form Tutor.

Heads of Year

The Head of Year co-ordinates the team of Form Tutors and has overall responsibility for the children in their year group. The role of the Head of Year is to provide pastoral support and guidance to students. They also monitor the progress of the year group and ensure that all students are achieving their potential. If a student is not achieving their potential, the Head of Year may contact you and meet to discuss how your child can be supported to make progress.

Curriculum Leaders

The Curriculum Leaders are Teachers who are in charge of a subject area, e.g. Mathematics or English. They lead a team of Subject Teachers and organise the curriculum, resources, teaching and assessment in that subject.

Heads of Department and Subject Teachers monitor the academic progress of students within a curriculum area. If you have any questions about a subject area you may wish to contact your child's Subject Teacher or Head of Department.

If you wish to speak to a member of staff, you are always welcome to contact them (send an email, contact the school office or write a letter).

Arbor - Parent Portal App

We use a pupil information system called Arbor which parents can access via their mobile phones. We encourage all parents/guardians to download the app so that we can utilise the system as much as possible for each student. Information on how access the application can be found on the Parent section of the website.



LUNCH

Bacon's College is a cashless school.

All parents/carers, students and staff are able to use a cashless method to pay for food in the dining hall, school trips and other items. This is done online using Arbor.

Free School Meals

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, this information will be on our system and your child will be able to purchase a free meal at lunchtime each day. For purchases at breakfast and breaktime snacks, they will need to have credit on their ParentPay account. To apply for Free School Meals, please visit our school website and submit evidence of eligibility to our school office.

<https://www.baconscollege.co.uk/parents/menus-free-school-meals>



MONEY AND VALUABLES

We discourage students from bringing cash or other valuables to school. Students who must carry money should keep it on their person at all times, e.g. they should have a pocket with a zip. Purses should have a clear name label inside.

Valuables are the responsibility of the child and the school cannot be responsible for loss, damage or theft. We will not accept responsibility for the loss or damage to unauthorised items brought into the school.

Mobile Phones

At Bacon's College, we have a 'See it, Hear it, Lose it' policy. Students may bring mobile phones to school but they must be turned off or they may be confiscated. Students are not allowed to use mobile phones at any time on the school site. If a student's phone is seen or heard, a member of staff will confiscate their phone. Mobile phones will be stored securely until a parent/guardian is available to collect the student's phone.

The school is particularly aware of the growing national problem of cyber-bullying. We take a strong stance against any form of cyber-bullying and we rely on parents to support us in carrying out our policy against bullying.

Social Media

At Bacon's College, it is the responsibility of parents, not the school, to oversee their child's social media activities. Parents should actively ensure their child's online experiences are both safe and positive.



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

We aim to meet the needs of our students through a well-planned curriculum supplemented by a variety of enrichment activities. We have a strong emphasis on reading and ask parents/carers to encourage this too. We expect students to do their best, to challenge themselves and to achieve high standards.

Helping your child to be organised is one of the most important things you can do to support your child. Some students find it difficult to remember to bring the correct equipment to school. Please support your child by reminding them to pack their school bag and prepare their equipment and uniform.

Reading, writing and spelling are essential skills. We are committed to raising standards of literacy for all students. There are opportunities for students to work on their literacy skills during and after school. Every student should have a reading book with them at all times. Students should read regularly at home as well as in school. All students are able to join the school library.

We encourage students to revise the spellings of key words after every lesson. We recommend that you purchase a small pocket dictionary which can be used to support learning on a daily basis.

Learning Development

We aim to provide an inclusive, stimulating, and safe environment which will enhance the learning of all students and help them achieve their full potential. We work to prepare students for the next phase of their education, employment, or training. We aim to raise the aspirations and expectations of all students, especially those with Special Educational Needs and Development (SEND).

We deliver high quality teaching to meet the needs of our students. Some students will need support additional to and different from that which is ordinarily available for the majority of students; this is special educational provision. We have a duty to use best endeavours to ensure that provision is made for those with SEND.

Every teacher is responsible and accountable for the progress and development of all students in their class even where students access additional support from learning support assistants or specialist staff.

Teaching and supporting students with SEND is therefore a whole College responsibility. In order to achieve this, we work in partnership with parents/carers, students, local authorities, specialist providers and other external agencies to meet the individual needs of our students.

HOME LEARNING

Home Learning

Students at Bacon's College are expected to complete homework outside of their timetabled lessons. Teachers set a wide array of home learning tasks. The aims are to reinforce learning, to help children to organise and work by themselves and to develop enough confidence to tackle problems.

They are expected to complete this work unsupervised in order to develop their capacity to study independently. Homework is intended to raise attainment and nurture those independent research and study skills that will be increasingly important to them throughout their education and careers.

We use 'Show my Homework' to set, track and monitor homework – students and parents are given their own individual logins which allows parents to check what homework is being set.

Website: www.showmyhomework.com

For more information and user guides, please go to <https://www.baconscollege.co.uk/parents/home-learning-online-platforms>

We actively encourage parents to be fully involved with supporting and checking their child's homelearning.

Students can login via the 'Sign in with Office 365' option with the same username and password that they would use to login to school computers, parents and carers are also provided with their own log in so that they can check for themselves what work has been set and what has been completed.

Anybody experiencing problems with logging in to the system should contact their child's tutor. Students needing support and access to computers are very welcome to join homework club which takes place after school.

At the start of term, students should set up folders on the computer for each subject, ready to save homework into.

Encourage them to create sensible file names so that they can easily find documents again. Also teach them to save their work as they go!

Your child may have exams during the summer term. Try not to overload them with pressure but support and encourage them. This is made more manageable by reviewing work completed on a regular basis rather than all at once or last minute.

KS3 HOMEWORK GUIDANCE

Homework expectations in Year 7 are introduced gradually. Students will receive a lighter homework load at the beginning of the year to support their transition to secondary school, with the amount of homework increasing steadily from the second half-term onwards.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7	English Homework booklet (40 mins)	RS Seneca (30 mins)			Geography Seneca / Knowledge Organiser (30 mins)
Year 8	SPARX Reader English Homework booklet (20 mins)	MFL Active Learn / Languagenut / Seneca / Fluency booklet (40 mins)	Maths SPARX Maths (60 mins)	Science SPARX Science (60 mins)	
Year 9					History Seneca (30 mins)

The whole school reading homework involves independent reading and comprehension questions, requiring an approximate duration of 30 minutes per week.

There is a significant increase in the amount of home learning that is set in secondary school compared to what students may be used to at primary school, and some students find the adjustment challenging.

Please be assured that students will be fully supported to manage the increase in expectations by all teaching and pastoral staff.

Students also have access to Homework Club and Independent Study Time after school to help them to manage their time effectively.

Please visit the Home Learning section of our website to find out more

<https://www.baconscollege.co.uk/parents/home-learning-online-platforms>

EDUCATION WITH CHARACTER

As a College with a Christian character, we are committed to our students' academic success and to the development of their individual character and personality. Our College Enrichment Programme runs for all students in Year 7 – 10 and Year 12 during the last week of the summer. During this time, the students engage in a range of PSHE workshops, careers education events and a number of cultural trips and enrichment activities run by College staff and external agencies.

These two weeks are focused on character education and on providing students with a rich and varied experience of extra-curricular activities which address the following:

- PSHE and SRE including mental health education – encouraging personal care and relationship education
- Careers Education including work experience & mock interviews
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme
- Enrichment Activities and workshops – developing hobbies, interests and applied curriculum concepts
- Building Cultural Capital – Museums, theatre trips and getting to know London and the local area
- Rewards Trips - celebrating good behaviour and a positive attitude to learning
- Community Engagement – developing community awareness and cohesion
 - Political and Environmental engagement – taking responsibility for our community and our world

We also offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities. We encourage students to go to at least one club a week. It is a great way to get to know other students. A timetable for extra-curricular activities will be available in September. Extra-curricular activities at Bacon's College are free. Please ensure you are aware of which clubs your child would like to attend and when they are running.

Please visit our website to find out more about all of these opportunities

<https://www.baconscollege.co.uk/how-we-learn/education-with-character>



UNIFORM

Here at Bacon's we are committed to the highest of standards for our students; our student's appearance and being smartly dressed is an important part of this. In our experience the way students wear their uniform can affect their attitude to their studies. We expect our students to look smart when they travel back and forth to school and when in our local community.

All students are expected to arrive at school wearing their full school uniform:

- Bacon's College blazer (compulsory)
- White shirt
- Tie (compulsory)
- Trousers
- Kilt or summer dress
- White or black socks

Students must also have the correct PE kit on the appropriate days.

P.E kit for all students from September 2024 includes:

- Bacon's PE polo shirt (compulsory)
- The blue socks (compulsory)
- The blue shorts (compulsory)
- Suitable trainers/astro boots (no converse/vans/flat soled shoes)
- Navy/silver track bottoms and ¼ zip top (optional but recommended for cold weather)

Students must remember to bring their full PE kit which will always include socks, shorts, PE top and a change of appropriate footwear. Failure to do so will result in a school detention.

If you have any further questions about the PE kit please do not hesitate to contact Mr Tubb at b.tubb@baconcollege.co.uk

Compulsory items of uniform can be purchased from White Hall Clothiers, Camberwell.
www.whitehallclothiers.com

<https://www.baconcollege.co.uk/parents/uniform-personal-presentation>

Please label all parts of uniform, coat, and PE Kit to help locate owners of lost items.



This unique book charts the great moments of our history, of discovery and invention, from the earliest settlers to the present day. It explains the lives of people of all kinds across the centuries: rulers, reformers, rebels, thinkers, scientists, pioneers and artists.

- over 500 illustrations
- detailed historical maps
- special features pages on key subjects in each period



EQUIPMENT

Having the correct equipment is essential for learning. Form Tutors will check students have the correct equipment regularly and contact parents where this is an issue.

Regular equipment checks will be made throughout the day.

Every student is expected to provide the following basic items of equipment for every lesson:

- School Planner (provided on first day – replacement planner £5)
- Reading Book
- Hand Sanitiser
- Spare Face Mask x2
- Blue or black ball point pens x5
- Green ball point pen
- Coloured pencils/felt tips
- Scientific Calculator
- Pencil Case (Transparent/Clear)
- Pencil x2
- Pencil Eraser
- Pencil Sharpener
- Ruler
- Maths Set & Chromebook charger
- Whiteboard Pens

Tippex/ liquid paper is not allowed in school and must not be used in any school work.

Textbooks and specialised equipment will be issued on loan and students will be required to pay for any loss or damage to school property.

Please ensure your child has a big rucksack to fit all their equipment including A4 exercise books. It is also strongly recommended that students have a separate bag for their P.E Kit.

More information can be found at <https://www.baconscollege.co.uk/parents/uniform-personal-presentation>.

INSTRUMENT LESSONS

At Bacon's College, we believe in the power of the arts to have a transformative effect and understand the benefits of taking part in high quality instrument and vocal lessons for young people. Our aim is for Bacon's pupils to leave school having experienced and been inspired by a range of exceptional quality music tuition.

Bacon's College enables this by providing quality instrument and vocal lessons delivered by experienced staff who plan engaging lessons. Students receive ten lessons of thirty minutes per term. They also have the opportunity to develop and extend their instrument/vocal abilities by joining one of our extra-curricular music ensembles and enter external graded exams.

Currently, we offer lessons on Piano, Organ, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Vocals, Clarinet, Flute, Saxophone, Violin and Drums. More information regarding fees and lessons can be found on the application form on the school website. In return for providing lessons, we ask that students attend all lessons on time, practise at least 10 minutes each day and attend one of the school's music ensembles regularly each week; Choir, Guitar club, Orchestra, Pop/Rock Band.

If you would like your child to have music lessons, please complete the form on our website: <https://www.baconscollege.co.uk/college-life/year-6-7-transition>.



ATTENDANCE

Good attendance is at the core of good learning and achievement. We record and monitor attendance as a legal requirement and expect a minimum of 97% attendance.

A note from you, the parent/carer, must cover absence from school. Absence should only be for genuine illness. Please do not make dental/medical appointments during school hours. However, if this cannot be avoided, please inform the school office if your child needs to leave school early for an appointment and provide a copy of the medical appointment letter.

We urge you not to take your child on holiday during term time. It makes it difficult for your child to catch up with their work when they return. Term time absence will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances; otherwise the absence will be unauthorised. Taking your child on holiday during term time without permission from the Headteacher could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN).

In the event that your child is unable to attend school, please contact us before 8.30am on the day of absence. The school absence line is 020 7237 1928. Alternatively, please e-mail: studentabsence@baconscollege.co.uk

Please keep the school informed if the period of absence is likely to be long term, e.g. a stay in hospital. If we do not receive a valid reason for absence, the period of absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

PUNCTUALITY

Students should arrive for line-up at 8:25am, ready to begin the school day. Students arriving after 8:25am will enter via the school reception where they will be marked as late and will be kept in detention after school that day.

If there is a valid reason for lateness, please contact the school via studentabsence@baconscollege.co.uk or call the main reception.

SCHOOL DAY TIMETABLE - Year 7

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Line Up	8.25 - 8.30 am (Any student not in-line by 8.25am will be issues with a detention for lateness)				
Registration	8.30 - 9.00 am				
Period 1	9.00 - 9.50 am				9.00 - 9.45 am
Period 2	9.50 - 10.40 am				9.45 - 10.30 am
Break	10.40 - 11.00 am				10.30 - 10.50 am
Period 3	11.00 - 11.50 am				10.50 - 11.35 am
Period 4	11.50 - 12.40 pm				11.35 - 12.20 pm
Lunch	12.40 - 1.15 pm				12.20 - 12.55 pm
Line Up	1.15 - 1.25 pm				
Period 5	1.25 - 2.15 pm				12.55 - 1.40 pm
Period 6	2.15 - 3.05 pm				1.40 - 2.25 pm
Period 7 / IST / Extra Curricular		3.05 - 3.50 pm Extra-Curricular & Compulsory Homework Club	3.05 - 3.50 pm IST		2.25 - 2.35 pm Line Up
Detentions	3.05 - 4.35 pm	3.05 - 4.35pm	3.50 - 5.15 pm	3.05 - 4.35 pm	2.35 - 4.05 pm



MEDICAL INFORMATION

- Your child may need medical assistance during the school day. Your child must tell a member of staff if they do not feel well.
- The medical team will contact you if they believe your child should be collected and taken home. Please note that the medical team are not able to give students any medication unless you have provided medication to be stored in their school file.
- If your child needs an EpiPen or an asthma pump for their medical condition, please you ensure you have provided one for the school file. Your child must always also carry their own EpiPen or Asthma pump.



STUDENT WELFARE

As a college we recognise that growing up can sometimes be difficult. Sometimes despite the best efforts of the college or parents, there are students who fail to learn, who cannot find their place in their peer group, who dread coming to school or fail to fulfil their potential. In order to support our young people through difficult times, we have Student Support Services to which staff, students and parents can refer.

The aim of the Student Support Services is to provide high quality care, guidance & support for students so that they can grow into healthy, happy & hopeful young people with the capacity to learn, the ability to respect others and the creativity to make the most of the opportunities offered to them by Bacon's.

Safeguarding

At Bacon's College, we have a safeguarding team managed by our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Sargeant and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Voigt. The team are on site to support students and their families who may be LAC, CP, CIN by attending CORE group meetings, conferences, PEP etc.

Pastoral Assistant

The Pastoral Assistant at Bacon's College are non-teaching staff members who work alongside the Heads of Years to support them with incidents that arise, liaise with parents and support students with their daily routines. Pastoral Assistant work closely with both parents/carers and students to build trust and positive relationships. They have 1:1 conversation with students to support them with issues which may be happening in school or in their home life. Pastoral Assistants may conduct home visits and have meetings in school with parents/carers to help them through different challenges they may be facing. They are also part of the safeguarding team.

Attendance Officer

Mrs Carroll is the Attendance officer for Bacon's College. The Attendance Officer is responsible for close monitoring Attendance and Punctuality of all our students. Part of the role includes contacting parents/guardians regarding student absence, and meeting with parents/guardians and students to discuss any concerns.

School Office

Our School Office team support our students and parents/guardians with queries, including medical needs and admissions.

Counselling

The College has its own counselling service. This service offers additional personal and confidential support to students who might benefit from the opportunity of working with a professional counsellor. Young people either refer themselves or are referred by staff or parents if they are struggling with a personal issue which is causing them anxiety and upset.

Mediation

The College works closely with Calm Mediation Service. This service has been running for 10 years and is firmly embedded in the ethos and culture of our College. The service is highly regarded and allows students a mechanism for resolving disputes, allowing them time and space to resolve their issues in a mature and respectful way.

Sixth form students are trained to mediate between students to support them in resolving their issues. Issues that are most commonly referred are: friendship issues, name calling, bullying, fights.

Read more at <https://www.baconscollege.co.uk/bacons-college-sixth-form/personal-development-enrichment/student-mediation>

KEY DATES

Southwark Borough Term Dates 2026-27

Autumn Term

Term 1: Wednesday 2nd September to Friday 23rd October 2026

Half term: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2026

Term 2: Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th December 2026

Spring Term

Term 3: Monday 4th January to Friday 12th February 2027

Half term: Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027

Term 4: Monday 22nd February to Thursday 25th March 2027

Summer Term

Term 5: Monday 12th April 2027 to Friday 28th May 2027

Half Term: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027

Term 6: Monday 7th June to Friday 16th July 2027

Please check our website for details of INSET days and back to school timings

<https://www.baconscollege.co.uk/college-life/term-dates-key-dates>

KEEPING IN TOUCH

If you have questions to ask, please get in touch:

schooloffice@baconscollege.co.uk

For more detailed information about the curriculum and to keep up to date with activities at the school, visit our website.



Bacon's College
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

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