



Barnes Primary School

Welcome to Year 1.

Transition booklet

July 2025

We hope that you all have an enjoyable summer break and we look forward to seeing you on **Monday 8th September**, ready for Year 1. We would like to make the transition from Reception as smooth as possible so we have provided a booklet with key information. We hope that you find this useful.

First day back

The school gates open at 8.35am.

Year 1s should enter through the main school gate, through the front door, down the main corridor and move into the Key Stage 1 playground. It is important that all children remain with their parents during this time.

The children will enter the school through the Key Stage 1 cloakroom. The cloakroom door will close at 8.45am. Please ensure your child is in school before this so they can join in with learning activities. Any child coming into school after this will get marked as late.

Please may we ask that children walk into school independently. There will be members of staff to help them find their pegs and put their belongings away. Once they have organised their belongings, they will then walk through the Key Stage 1 building to their new classroom. **It is important that parents do not linger around the entrance to the cloakroom so that children can keep coming through the doors.** During the first few days members of staff will be positioned around the building so that children get used to this routine.

On your child's first day at school please can they bring with them:

- Their book bag (or rucksack) and any books they may not have previously returned
- The 'All about me' home learning activity if it has not already been handed in.
- Named water bottle
(Please can water bottles be basic water bottles and not ones with extra features such as scented pods and the correct size to fit inside a normal water bottle holder.)

The children should be picked up from their classroom at **3.15pm**. This routine is exactly the same as in Reception, with children saying goodbye to their teacher at the door. This will also provide parents with the opportunity to speak to their child's class teacher.

Staffing in Year 1

Miss Bailey will teach 1B and Mrs McKenzie will teach 1M.

Additional support staff in Key Stage 1:

Sol (Miss Taboas), Avrika and Lama



Ms Bailey



Mrs McKenzie

Communication

The Year 1 team will be opening the doors each morning so a quick message can be said at this point, but our focus will be on welcoming the children safely. We are more than happy to receive communication via emails to help us ensure that your child has a good day. It would be great if emails could be short. Our email addresses can be found below:

Amy Bailey: abailey@barnes.richmond.sch.uk

Matilda McKenzie (currently Miss Tenglin but she is getting married in July and changing her name):

mtenglin@barnes.richmond.sch.uk (until end of July 2025)

mmckenzie@barnes.richmond.sch.uk (from September 2025)

The first week

The first week back will focus on settling children so that they become acquainted with their new teachers, understand the rules and systems in place and know where everything is. We will do lots of little tours of the areas so that the children settle beautifully and feel confident in their new environment. We already have so many magical moments prepared to really create a sense of excitement about Year 1.

The daily timetable for the first half term

During the first few weeks of the half term, the daily timetable will mirror the timetable that the children know in Reception. The day will be divided into small sessions as a class and opportunities for free flow learning as a year group. This will ensure that the children feel comfortable in Year 1 whilst they are settling, with similar routines and systems.

PE, music and computing

Outdoor PE and music are taught by specialist teachers. The children will have outdoor PE with Miss Kwee and music with Miss Warner every Thursday morning. On a Wednesday afternoon, Miss Kwee will teach indoor PE to both classes whilst Mrs McKenzie teaches computing to both classes.

Wednesday (afternoon PE) – please send your child **in wearing their school uniform**. They will then change into their PE kits after lunch and come home in it, bringing their uniform home in their PE kit bag.

Thursday (morning PE) – please send your child **in wearing their PE kit** and with their uniform in their PE kit bag. They will get changed after their lesson and bring their PE kit home that night.

It is really important that all uniform and PE kit are clearly named. We will have high expectations in Year 1 for children looking after their belongings. This is difficult to do if their uniform is not clearly labelled. Thank you so much with supporting this.

The learning environment

Mrs McKenzie and Miss Bailey will be working during the summer break to transform Year 1 into a free flow setting mirroring Reception. The children will be taken on tours of both classrooms as soon as they return. This will allow them to feel settled quickly and know where their favourite areas are for free flow learning time. They have already visited the classrooms.

It is important that the children have the opportunity to develop in all areas of the curriculum. We view free flow learning as an opportunity to use and apply skills taught in class, in a fun practical manner.

Classroom changes

After the first few weeks, the classroom layout will change so that each child receives a desk space and their own chair. Very exciting to a five year old! We will ensure again that this change is discussed so that children are prepared and ready for any changes in routine and timetable.

We wish to emphasise that learning will continue to be practical and fun. There will also be free flow learning opportunities throughout the whole academic year, just at different times in a new classroom layout. We will talk to you about this in greater detail during our September curriculum meeting. You will see the new daily timetable for the second half of term so that you are aware of the timetable and routines in place.

Systems, routines and expectations




We have written about key routines and systems below so that you feel ready for the first half term. Some of these are slightly different to what you have been used to in Reception.

Class mascots

Each class will have a mascot who will come home with one child each Friday. They will bring home a mascot diary for you to document your weekend with the mascot! ☺ You can add drawings, photographs and writing onto two pages about your weekend. Your child will then talk to the class about their weekend on the following Friday. They love looking at this throughout the year.

Reading books

In Year 1, the children receive five books to take home each week. Books get changed every **Friday** so please ensure they are in your child's bag on this day. Two books will be **rocket phonics books** which is the phonics scheme we use. Two will be different books in their colour band, called **supplementary books** and they will have an additional **library book** as well. For most of the year the **rocket phonics books** and the **supplementary books** will both be on the colour band your child is currently reading. However, for the first few weeks this may differ as we read with and assess their current level – this can vary quite a lot after a 6-week break!

<p>2 Decodable books</p>  <p>To practise phonics taught so far for fluency</p>	<p>2 Supplementary books</p>  <p>For variety and challenge - may need some adult help</p>	<p>1 Library book</p>  <p>To develop a love of reading through sharing quality texts</p>
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Reading journals

Reading daily with your child makes a significant impact to your child's confidence and attainment. **Reading journals are collected in once a week on a Wednesday morning.** The children will hand them in to their teacher. Class teachers will look through the week of reading at home and this allows them to monitor the weekly reading and read any key comments from parents after school. **The expectation remains the same. Children should read each night and we hope to see five**

entries in the journal each Wednesday. The journals will be given back to children on Thursday mornings. If a child reads five times a week, they get a special sticker in their book! If they read five times a week for every week of the half term they get put on the '**reading champions**' poster in the classroom. It's very exciting!

Please can we ask that **reading journals still remain in the children's book bag each day** so that teachers and staff can write comments whilst listening to children read throughout the week. This will allow you to see how they are progressing and suggestions of what to work on at home.

Teachers listen to children read weekly during guided reading in a small group of six and one to one at least twice in a half term.

Home learning

Home learning will be set each **Friday after school** and emailed to you via SchoolComms. The home learning letter will include important information for you about upcoming events and information about what the children have been learning that week. You do not need to print out the home learning letter. Home learning is expected to be completed each week. If there are any additional sheets, we will print these out for you.

We have also put a chart in the front of the home learning book in case you would like to update us about how your child did with a particular task. Please write the date and activity in this and anything you'd like to let us know. This does not have to be written on every week.

Home learning books need to be handed in every week on a **Thursday morning** in a box outside the Year 1 classrooms. We will let you know if the home learning work should be in the workbook, uploaded to Teams or completed verbally.

Spellings

After the first half term in Year 1, there will be weekly spellings set. The children will have a spelling quiz each Friday afternoon. The children really enjoy this and we will explain the system in more detail at our curriculum evening.

Parent helpers

We value parental support in school and have heard that the parent helpers in Reception this year have been fantastic and numerous. If you are able to regularly read with children on a Monday or Thursday afternoon (1.30-3.00pm), please email your class teacher. We can then get your DBS check done as quickly as possible and hopefully ready to start in the first couple of weeks. Parent readers will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. We need three for each day. If we have additional people offering, we will keep the names in case there is space later on in the year. Alternatively, we could offer you to a different year group who do not have as many adults able to help if you would be happy to do this.

Parent readers will not necessarily read with their own children. We frequently assess which children we think would benefit the most from additional reading and amend the list accordingly.

We are so grateful for your support with this. It significantly helps the children.

Year 1 Curriculum Meeting

As we mentioned earlier, there will be a curriculum and welcome meeting for **Year 1 on Monday 15th September at 5:30pm in the Key Stage 1 hall**. In this meeting you will learn about:

- How the children have settled
- Changes during the autumn term two
- The curriculum in Year 1
- New systems and routines such as spellings and handwriting
- How to help at home
- Expectations

We hope that all parents and carers can attend.

Helpful website pages

Term dates: <https://barnesprimaryschool.co.uk/news-events/term-dates/>

Knowledge maps (that show key vocabulary and information the children will be learning over the year): <https://barnesprimaryschool.co.uk/curriculum/knowledge-maps/>

Uniform: <https://barnesprimaryschool.co.uk/parents/uniform/>

Phonics and reading information: <https://barnesprimaryschool.co.uk/curriculum/reading/06-reading-in-key-stage-1/>

Year 1 page (with curriculum map that includes what the children will be learning and when (we are currently in the process of updating this)): <https://barnesprimaryschool.co.uk/our-school/phases/key-stage-1/year-1/>

Handwriting:

This has videos of how we teach the children to form every letter. There is also a helpful video to explain how you can help support your child's handwriting at home.

<https://barnesprimaryschool.co.uk/curriculum/writing-new/04-handwriting/>

Y1 MUSIC PROVISION AT BARNES PRIMARY FOR AUTUMN TERM 2025

During KS1 children are able to learn to play the recorder, piano and violin with one of our specialist music tutors from Rondo Music led by Natalia.

If you would like your child to take up an instrument, please email

Natalia info.rondomusic@gmail.com and copy in Karen Warner kwarner@barnes.richmond.sch.uk.

Some instruments may have a short waiting list and Natalia will be able to advise you about this. Please note that priority is given to Y2 for piano tuition.

The music provision we provide is on-site during the school day with specialist music tutors.

There will be 10 music lessons per term of 20 minutes each

£185 for individual (beginner or Grade 1 and above) 10 x 20 minute lessons per term

£125 for paired (beginners only) 10 x 20 minute lessons per ter

KS1

Instrument	Tutor	Contact
Recorder	Maya Kampoori Rondo Music London	Natalia info.randomusic@gmail.com
Violin	Rob Jones Rondo Music London	Natalia info.randomusic@gmail.com
Piano (priority is given to Y2)	TBC Rondo Music London	Natalia info.randomusic@gmail.com

Further information can be found in the newsletter and on the music website page.

<https://barnesprimaryschool.co.uk/curriculum/music-page-under-construction/01-music-tuition/>

Summer holidays

Please continue to work on the next step suggestions in all areas of learning as set by your child's Reception teachers which is at the end of their report. This will ensure that children are prepared for Year 1.

We are really looking forward to teaching your children next year. We hope that you have a wonderful and relaxing break.

Kind regards,

Miss Bailey and Mrs McKenzie

What your child needs each day

Monday: reading journal and water bottle.

Tuesday: reading journal and water bottle.

Wednesday: reading journal, water bottle and named PE kit in bag.

Thursday: wear PE kit and bring in named school uniform in a bag,
hand in home learning book, hand in spelling folder (from
Autumn term 2) and water bottle.

Friday: reading journal, reading books and water bottle.