

BULLERS WOOD SCHOOL FAQ

How many students are there in a year group?

There are 232 students in each year, divided into 8 form groups.

What is the structure of the school day?

The day starts for all students at 8.25am and ends at 3.00pm. The normal school day can be found [here](#).

What is the school uniform?

Full details of our school uniform can be found [here](#).

What is your admissions area?

We do not have a specific catchment area. The distance from which we accept students varies every year, depending on how many apply and where they live. The distances we have reached on offer day in recent years are as follows:

School	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bullers Wood Girls	1.49mile	1.48mile	1.631mile	1.44mile	1.377mile	1.576mile	1.26 mile

Our Admissions Policy can be found [here](#).

What subjects do Year 7 students study?

Students study a broad and balanced curriculum, with all subjects taught discretely. An example timetable can be found [here](#).

What topics are studied in Year 7?

Information about the curriculum for each subject can be found [here](#).

How are students set?

Students are set in Year 7 for English. The sets are decided based on SATs information from primary schools combined with CATS tests taken soon after starting school in September.

Maths does not operate a standard setting policy, but instead bands students into more broadly mixed-attainment groups based on a mixture of SATs and CATs scores, and an internal baseline assessment when they join.

All other subjects are taught mixed-ability.

What languages do students study?

All Year 7 students study Spanish. Half will also study German and the other half study French. We try to accommodate preferences for the second language but cannot guarantee a choice of language.

What extra-curricular activities are offered?

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities, with a number of sports and musical activities as well as Drama, Poetry, History, Maths and much more. Our [Enrichment Programme for 2019-20](#) gives an idea of what we usually have on offer.

Where do students get lunch?

We have three places where students can buy lunch – the Dining Hall, Dalo building and Food Cube (an outdoor serving area with covered seating). Students can also bring a packed lunch and we have picnic tables throughout the site.

What are your results like?

As examinations were not held during the last two summers, and performance tables have been suspended, we are continuing to publish the 2019 results on our website [here](#). Bullers Wood students consistently achieve excellent results compared to similar schools.

When was the last Ofsted inspection and what was the outcome?

Our last Ofsted inspection was in 2011 and the school was found to be Outstanding. The report from the inspection can be found [here](#). Outstanding schools that consistently maintain very high standards are not regularly re-inspected.

How is pastoral care organised?

Form tutors are the first port of call in our pastoral care system and stay with their form groups from Year 7-11 where possible. Heads of Year oversee year groups and are involved when students have more serious issues. Each year group also has an Assistant Head Teacher supporting and looking after them. Our Director of Safeguarding, Mrs K Anderson, and the Safeguarding Team ensure that students are kept safe in school. We also have School Counsellors who can see students who need someone to talk to.

The school has a House system which enables collaboration across the year groups and competition between houses, to develop school community spirit. Each House is named after an inspirational woman: Maya Angelou, Malorie Blackman, Tanni Grey-Thompson, Ada Lovelace, Rosa Parks, Mary Seacole, Beatrice Shilling and Emma Watson.

How are students with SEND supported?

Teachers are aware of students with additional educational needs and liaise with the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCO), Learning Support Assistants and Heads of Year to ensure that they are fully supported. Teachers differentiate their lessons for the whole range of ability and to accommodate specific learning needs.

Some students may have an Educational Health Care Plan and will receive additional interventions from the SEND Department including speech and language therapy or individual and small group interventions.

What is student behaviour like?

Student behaviour is excellent, and it is the expectation of every member of staff that the behaviour of students within our community at Bullers Wood School will be of a very high standard at all times. Behaviour management is a collective responsibility; all staff contribute to maintaining a positive atmosphere (in lessons and around site) based on the shared core values of *mutual respect* and *ready to learn*. We aim to build positive relationships, which establish an ethos of Behaviour for Learning where learning is sacrosanct, with consequences for any behaviour that disrupts this process. Our behaviour policy can be found [here](#).

How much homework do Year 7 students get?

Students are regularly set homework in all their subjects. In Year 7, students can expect to spend 1-1.5 hours on homework each night.

How does the school help learners settle into Year 7?

In the summer term of Year 6, your daughter will be invited to spend an Induction Day with us so she can spend time in the school with her form and year group peers. Parents and carers are also invited to an evening so they can meet key members of staff. We run a highly successful Summer School during the holidays before Year 7 start. In September, our caring and empathetic pastoral team works hard to get to know each individual student and help them become accustomed to life here.

I have another question!

Please send it to FAQ@bwsgirls.org and we will respond in due course.