

Ballakermeen High School

YEAR 7

Meet The Tutor



A guide for parents and carers

CLASS OF
2026/
2027

KINDNESS HONESTY RESPECT



CONTACTING US

(01624) 648700
bhsenquiries@sch.im
www.bhs.sch.im

ABSENCE HOTLINE

(01624) 648709
attend@bhs.sch.im

Dear Parent/Carer,

May I extend a warm welcome to you and to your children who have joined the fabulous Ballakermeen family!

I hope that this booklet will be a useful point of reference that helps your child to settle quickly. We know that the move to secondary school may present your child with a mixture of nerves and excitement, but I can assure you that there is a whole team of staff working around your child to guide, support and nurture them so that they are happy and flourishing.

Our school values are clear and I look forward to us working together in the coming years with honesty, kindness and respect. I have no doubt that these shared values will provide the basis for a positive relationship that supports your child's success during their time with us.

I encourage you to get in touch should you have any questions and a look forward to meeting you in the coming months.

With the warmest regards



Graeme Corrin
Head Teacher

WHO'S WHO?

The first point of contact is your child's tutor. Please let the tutor know of anything which may affect your child's progress, happiness or well-being via bhsenquiries@sch.im.
Note: some groups may have more than one tutor.



**KEY STAGE
3/4 LEADER**

Miss Hicks



**HEAD OF
YEAR 7**

Miss N Clarke



**PASTORAL
SUPPORT**

Mrs Calder



7CK7

Mrs McCubbin



7HS7

Mrs Cotton



7HS5

Mr Mitchell



7LK5

Mr Shirtliff



7LS6

Miss P Clarke



7ML4

Miss Stimpson



7MK4

Mr Hardie



7PK6

Mrs Lapping



7PS9

Mrs Sherrington & Mr James

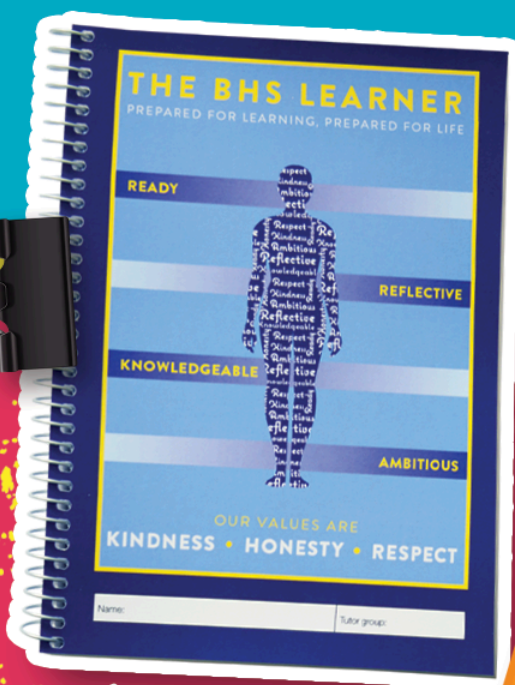
7LD2

Understanding the Tutor Group Code:

7 = Year Group

L = House

D2 = Tutor Room



TIMETABLE:

The timetable is found in your child's planner and is made up of a series of lessons. You will notice that each lesson has its own unique code; please see the example below to understand each lesson in your child's timetable.

	Reg	2	3
Mon	08:50 09:10 Tutorial 7LD2/B2 EC D2 Music	09:10 10:00 French 7B/Fr4 FR K2 MFL	10:00 10:50 Science 7B/Sc4 DI
Tue	08:50 09:10 Tutorial 7LD2/B2 EC D2 Music	09:10 10:00 PE Double 7B/Pd2 JRC	09:50 09:10 Tutorial DT

09:10	10:00
French	
7B/Fr4	
FR	K2 MFL

9.10 - 10.00 - Lesson start & finish times
7B/Fr4 - Year group, band/subject code & set
FR - Teacher's initials
K2 MFL - Classroom & subject

BANDS:

There are 9 tutor groups which are split into three bands. The letters (A, B and C) are for timetabling purposes only.



A BAND:

7HS7 Mrs Cotton

7HS5 Mr Mitchell

7LK5 Mr Shirtliff

B BAND:

7LS6 Miss P Clarke

7MK4 Mr Hardie

7PK6 Mrs Lapping

C BAND:

7CK7 Mrs McCubbin

7ML4 Miss Stimpson

7PS9 Mrs Sherrington & Mr S James

SCHOOL TIMES:



Start: 8.45am Finish: 3.20pm

	MON - THU	FRI
Reg	8.50am - 9.10am	8.50am - 9.00am
PSHE		9.00am - 9.45am
Lesson 1	9.10am - 10.00am	9.45am - 10.30am
Lesson 2	10.00am - 10.50am	10.30am - 11.15am
Break	10.50am - 11.10am	11.15am - 11.35am
Lesson 3	11.10am - 12.00pm	11.35am - 12.20pm
Lunch	12.00pm - 12.50pm	12.20pm - 1.05pm
Lesson 4	12.50pm - 1.40pm	1.05pm - 1.50pm
Lesson 5	1.40pm - 2.30pm	1.50pm - 2.35pm
Lesson 6	2.30pm - 3.20pm	2.35pm - 3.20pm

Breakfast can be purchased from the canteen before school (8am - 8.40am).

Buses leave the premises at 3.30pm.



Lessons:

Most students will study English, Maths, Science, Art, Drama, D&T, French, Geography, German, History, ICT, Music, PE and RE each week. Students move around the school to different classrooms for each subject.

D&T and PE are taught in modules to allow students to experience a wide range of skills and specialist areas.

Lockers are available before tutorial, break time, lunch time, and after school

Sets are labelled 1 - 3, with set 1 being the highest ability group. Not all subjects will set students. English, Drama, Music, ICT, RE, and History are taught in tutor groups. D&T and PE are taught in mixed groups. French and German will be taught in tutor groups until February half-term and then set from March. Science will set from Easter and Geography will set from end of December/start of January.

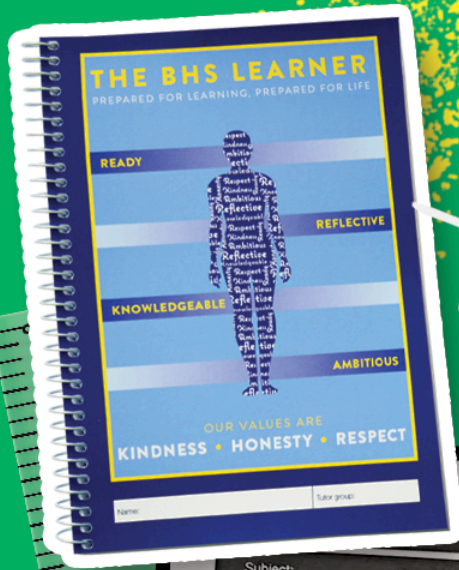


Students whose reading age is significantly below their chronological age will receive a period of literacy support before joining tutor groups for English.

Setting is regularly reviewed and if there is a risk of your child being moved down a set, you will be notified via the planner. Students will also be given a list of things they should do to help them remain in that set.

SCHOOL PLANNER:

Organisational skills are important and we expect planners to be brought to school each day. Please check your son/daughter's planner each week for notes from subject teachers and/or the tutor and sign on a weekly basis. Tutors will also check planners for any notes from parents/carers. Replacement planners cost £2.00.



September 2026

Subject:	Description of homework task:	Due date:

Notes

Student Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____ Tutor Signature: _____

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Week beginning: Mon 28th September 2026

Subject:	Description of homework task:	Due date:

Notes

Student Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____ Tutor Signature: _____

Ballakermeen High School

PAGES OF INTEREST IN THE PLANNER

Mobile Devices

Let's stop bullying

Classroom Behaviour and Stages

Attitude to Learning grade descriptors

The Library

Staying safe online

TUTOR WEEKLY PROGRAMME:

Venue: Tutor Room

Time: 8.50am - 9.10am

- ✓ Monday: Assembly
- ✓ Tuesday: Assembly/Reflection
- ✓ Wednesday: Reading together
- ✓ Thursday: Reading together
- ✓ Friday: PSHE

We believe that life skills and life chances are developed through classroom learning



PSHE:

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

PSHE is a school subject through which students develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to keep themselves healthy and safe, and prepared for life and work.

Health & Wellbeing:

Promoting emotional wellbeing and healthy coping strategies. Developing 'digital resilience' in the context of online pressures. Reframing negative thinking. Awareness of common mental health concerns such as anxiety and depression.

Relationships and Sex Education:

A comprehensive programme of RSE gives children and young people essential skills for building positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitive relationships and for staying safe both on and offline.

Living in the Wider World:

Careers, stereotypes, aspirations, community, citizenship, diversity, prejudice, saving, spending and budgeting, politics.

LIBRARY:

Main Library: 8am - 4pm

Fiction Library: Break & Lunchtime

We have a huge range of books as well as a computer suite with internet. To access the library catalogue, go to: www.bhs.sch.im and click 'Students' - 'BHS Library.' For further information about the library, please contact School Librarian Ros Alcock on: bhsenquiries@sch.im



LITERACY MARKING KEY

SP

Unfortunately, you have not spelled this word correctly. Please look up the word in a dictionary and write it out x3 under the heading 'Spelling Corrections' in your book. If you find this difficult, get someone to help you.

P

There is a punctuation error here. You should consider where you went wrong. Do you keep making the same mistake? Why?

//

You should have started a new paragraph here. Consider why.

TT

You have used a subject specific technical word - well done!

G

You have made a grammatical error. Please re-write the sentence in your corrections.

PR

The presentation of your work is not of the standard expected. Have you underlined your headings? Dated your work? Is your handwriting easy to read? Aim to improve next time.

Our literacy marking key has been designed to help students improve their written work. Students are asked to correct their work before they hand it back to their subject teacher.

SNAPSHOTS & REPORTS



Ballakermeen High School

Year 7 Snapshot Report

This Year's Attendance				Praise Points	Concerns
93%	95% and over = Good 90% – 94% = Requires Improvement Below 90% = Poor	Unauthorised absences: 0 Authorised absences: 8 Possible sessions (half days): 290		327	4
Information to Support Good Attendance					
Subject	Class	Teacher	GCSE Indicator Target Grade	Current Progress	Attitude to Learning
Art	8C/Ar3	Miss J. Fulton	A	On track to achieve target	Developed
Design Technology	8C/Dt2	Mr P. Crilly	B	On track to achieve target	Developing
Drama	8C/Dr3	Miss A. Batey	A	On track to achieve target	Developed
English	8C/En3	Miss K. Hull	B	On track to achieve target	Developed
French	8C/Fr1	Mrs E. Lapping	B	On track to achieve target	Developed
Geography	8C/Gg1	Mrs J. Mainwaring	B	Currently working below target	Developed
German	8C/Ge1	Ms H. Tacardon	B	Working above target	Highly developed
History	8C/Hi2	Miss V. Harwood	B	Currently working below target	Developing
ICT	8C/It3	Mr Z. Keig	B	Currently working below target	Developing
Maths	8C/Ma1	Mrs A. Kane	A	On track to achieve target	Developed
Music	8C/Mu3	Miss E. Carter	B	Working above target	Highly developed
Physical Education	8Y/Pd2	Mrs C. Crowe	A	Currently working below target	Limited
Religious Education	8C/Re3	Mr C. Thompson	A	Working above target	Highly developed
Science	8C/Sc1	Mrs A. Shelton	A	Currently working below target	Developing



Ballakermeen High School

This Year's Attendance					
93%	95% and over = Good 90% – 94% = Requires Improvement Below 90% = Poor	Unauthorised absences: Authorised absences: Possible sessions (half days): 29			
	Information to Support Good Attendance				
	Subject	Teacher	End of Key Stage Target	End of Year 8 Grade	Attitude to Learning
Art	Miss J. Fulton	A	A	Developed	Keep up the good work;
Design Technology	Mr P. Crilly	B	B	Developing	Keep up the good work;
Drama	Miss A. Batey	A	A	Developed	Keep up the good work;
English	Miss K. Hull	B	B	Developed	Keep up the good work;
French	Mrs E. Lapping	B	B	Developed	Keep up the good work;
Geography	Mrs J. Mainwaring	B	B	Developed	Keep up the good work;
German	Ms H. Tacardon	B	B	Highly developed	Keep up the good work;
History	Miss V. Harwood	B	B	Developing	Keep up the good work;
ICT	Mr Z. Keig	B	B	Developing	Keep up the good work;
Maths	Mrs A. Kane	A	A	Developed	Keep up the good work;
Music	Miss E. Carter	B	B	Highly developed	Keep up the good work;
Physical Education	Mrs C. Crowe	A	A	Developed	Keep up the good work;
Religious Education	Mr C. Thompson	A	A	Highly developed	Keep up the good work;
Science	Mrs A. Shelton	A	A	Developing	Keep up the good work;

Snapshots issued:
17th Dec 2026

Reports issued:
3rd July 2027

Academic Tutoring:
16th July 2027

Please note: we have moved to a new Management Information System and the reports will look a little different to this, but will contain the same information!



ACADEMIC TUTORING

We don't think you should have to wait until a parents' evening to contact the school if you have a concern about a subject, just use the planner to let us know. On Academic Tutoring Day, Year 7 will be given a day's study leave to make it possible for us to staff the sessions during the working day, as well as before and after school hours.



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO ATTEND EVERY DAY?

Learning is a progressive activity; each day's lessons build upon those of the previous day. Many subject lessons use discussions, demonstrations, experiments and participation as part of the daily learning activities, and these cannot be made up by those who are absent. 90% attendance means an absence from lessons for the equivalent of one half day every week.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS OF FREQUENT ABSENCES?

A child who does not attend school regularly will be unlikely to keep up with work.

WHAT ARE THE OTHER BENEFITS?

Students with good attendance records achieve higher grades and enjoy school more. Regular school attendance patterns encourage the development of other responsible patterns of behaviour.



Absence from school is often the greatest single cause of poor performance and achievement.

WHAT CAN YOU DO AS A PARENT/CARER TO HELP?

If your child is ill or must miss school for some other reason, please contact the school immediately (by phone: 648700 or email: bsenquiries@sch.im) or write a note in your son/daughter's planner. Contact the school on your child's first day of absence before 8.45am. If we do not hear from you by 10.00am, you will receive an automated telephone call.



Ballakermeen High School Association is a forum for parents and carers to meet together. It provides an opportunity to talk to other parents and senior staff about many aspects of school life. BHTSA organise various fundraising events to support specialist resources and projects not normally included within the education budget.

BHTSA

HOW DO I JOIN?

To be a part of the Association, all you need to do is come along to a meeting. It is entirely up to you whether you participate in the discussions or simply sit back and listen to what others have to say.

BHTSA meetings happen regularly throughout the year to raise concerns, ask questions, or provide feedback. The dates of all meetings are published on the group Facebook page.

All meetings begin at 6.30pm in the school library, simply follow the direction signs from the main Reception.

Facebook:

'Ballakermeen High School Association'

WHAT IS THE 300 CLUB?

The 300 Club raises money for the BHTSA and is a great way for busy parents to support the school, for just £24 a year. Draws take place each month with participants in with a chance to win up to £150!

To sign up, download an application form:
www.bhs.sch.im - Parents - Friends of Ballakermeen



Ballakermeen High School Association

300 CLUB

THE BHS LEARNER

The Ballakermeen Learner consists of four learning attributes; Ready, Reflective, Knowledgeable and Ambitious, and three values; Kindness, Honesty and Respect. We are working hard to embed these attributes and values across the school.

THE BHS LEARNER

PREPARED FOR LEARNING, PREPARED FOR LIFE

READY

REFLECTIVE

KNOWLEDGEABLE

AMBITIOUS

OUR VALUES ARE
KINDNESS • HONESTY • RESPECT

PRAISE POLICY

We are all part of one team at Ballakermeen, and we are working together to make our school warm, welcoming, and friendly. Ballakermeen is a school where genuine mutual respect is the expected norm, and we all understand that to reach our potential, we must make every second count.

We are proud of the achievements of our students, and we recognise these achievements within the school's praise system. Praise points are awarded to recognise students demonstrating the Ballakermeen Learner attributes and values as below.



READY – this may be a student who is fully equipped, punctual and focused.

REFLECTIVE – this may be a student who acts on feedback and makes adjustments to help them succeed.

KNOWLEDGEABLE – this may be a student who is able to retrieve and apply learning to various contexts.

AMBITIOUS – this may be a student who is a self-starter, who regularly challenges themselves to improve and gives their best, both in and out of school.

KIND – this may be a student who makes people feel welcome.

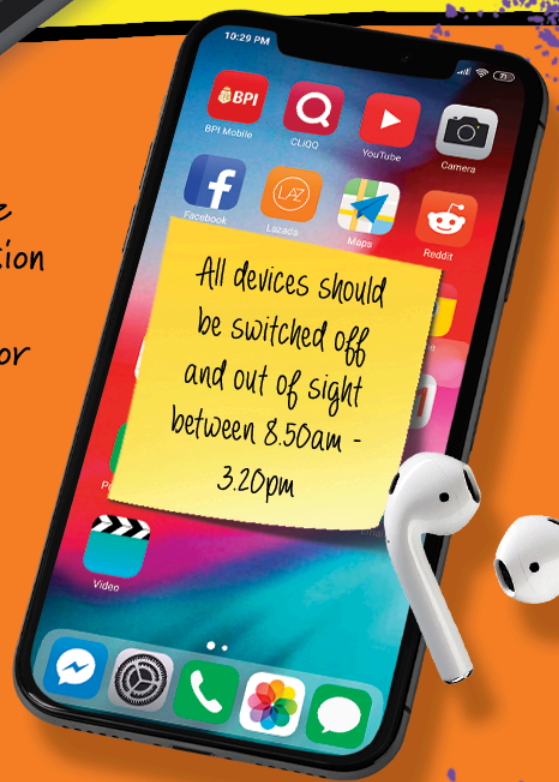
HONEST – this may be a student who is open about their strengths and weaknesses.

RESPECTFUL – this may be a student who considers others' feelings.

Praise points are monitored throughout the year and students' achievements are recognised in school assemblies and communications with home. All members of staff can award praise points, and they are encouraged to do so by looking for positive learning and social behaviour.

Mobile devices used during school hours (with the exception being in the classroom, with the permission of the teacher and for learning purposes) will be confiscated and placed in a secure area. Liability for any loss, damage or theft of any device is not, under any circumstance, the responsibility of the school or its staff. This includes phones, iPods, iPads, tablets, and similar devices.

The use of school-owned electronic devices is under the supervision of staff and in line with the DESC's Acceptable Usage Policy.



MOBILE PHONES & UNIFORM

✓ Coats or outer wear must be removed whilst in the school building and in lessons.

✓ White shirt with collar suitable for wearing a tie.

✓ BTS school tie.

✓ Jumper (optional) navy, plain, V-necked.

✓ School blazer (navy).



✓ Black, plain school trousers of a suitable formal design
OR

✓ Navy blue or black, plain or pleated school uniform skirt (no more than one inch above the knee. No lycra/ tight fitting skirts).

✓ Plain navy or black socks, or plain black tights.

✓ Plain, black, smart shoes with no obvious logo.

ALL GARMENTS SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE OWNER'S NAME

USEFUL WEBSITES & RESOURCES

MATHS:

Homework websites:

www.drfrostmaths.com

www.mymaths.co.uk

Microsoft Teams

Each Year 7 class has their own Teams classroom. Codes will be provided by class teachers. This is where you can find the knowledge organisers for each unit and revision resources for assessment.

Extra Learning resources:

whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths

nrich.maths.org/secondary-lower

bbc.co.uk/education/subject/zqhs34j

corbettmaths.co.uk

A separate communication will be sent out from Maths with more details

ENGLISH:

✓ www.parentsintouch.co.uk
A useful website with printable worksheets on different areas of English.

✓ www.literacytrust.org.uk
A website for you and your child to work through activities together. It also includes a suggested reading list.

✓ BBC Bitesize

✓ classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-3/subjects/english

✓ Microsoft Teams
Each Year 7 class has their own Teams classroom. Teachers will demonstrate how to use this in lessons.

GEOGRAPHY:

ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone/
A fun site where students can practice map skills

BBC Bitesize

Microsoft Teams

www.geographical.co.uk

www.nationalgeographic.com
You will also find a section for Geography in the Library.

science:

Key information:
Microsoft Teams

Revision
BBC Bitesize

D&T:

Each Year 7 will be added into a Microsoft Teams Classroom by their teacher. All homework can be found here.

Useful website:
www.technologystudent.com

HISTORY:

- ✓ **Microsoft Teams**
Each Year 7 class has their own Microsoft Teams classroom. Codes will be provided by teachers.

Revision:

- ✓ BBC Bitesize
- ✓ Culture Vannin
- ✓ Manx National Heritage

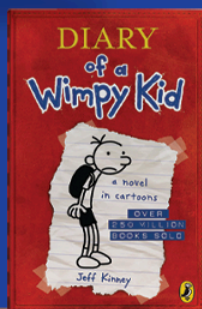
USEFUL WEBSITES & RESOURCES

French and German:
www.lingvascope.com
Students will be told how to login by their French/German teachers.

Music:
Microsoft Teams

If students wish to learn to play an instrument with the instrumental staff at school, details can be found on their website:
musicservice.sch.im

READING BOOKS



Jeff Kinney

Diary style novel, full of illustrations, very funny, especially loved by boys.



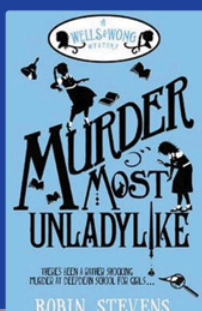
Michael Morpurgo

Any book by this author is great, easy to read, and very much enjoyed by this age range.



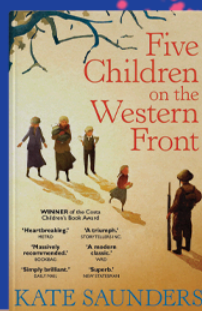
David Walliams

This author's books are great fun, much loved by boys and girls alike. In the tradition of Roald Dahl.



Robin Stevens

The first in a wonderful murder mystery series - lots of twists and turns!



Kate Saunders

A sequel to Five Children and It, by E. Nesbit, this is a wonderful, moving, imaginative story set during WWI.



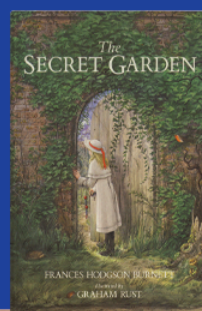
Alex Scarrow

This adventure series about time travelling investigators will have you on the edge of your seat!



Annet Schaap

This is a beautiful and exciting story, full of adventure, magic, and mermaids. Absorbing and rather wonderful!



Frances Hodgson Burnett

A classic story, with great characters and a moving mystery at its heart.

See the below websites for advice and suggestions about reading and choosing books:

www.booktrust.org.uk

www.literacytrust.org.uk

www.ckg.org.uk

For further ideas, see our library catalogue available online, visit your local library or bookshop, or contact Ros, the school Librarian.



Ballakermeen High School *Safeguarding Team*

“We are here to talk if you feel *unsafe*, or if you are *worried* about someone or something.”

Need someone to talk to?



Ashleigh Fieldstead



David Cregeen



Ruth Martin



Nicola Wade

**Article 12:
Children have the right to be heard.**

We are responsible for safeguarding at Ballakermeen High School. Please speak to us if you have any concerns. We are located in K block, email BHSSafeguarding@sch.im