‘The rapport between teachers and students is very positive; the pace is brisk and activities varied and students respond promptly and confidently to opportunities to collaborate, solve problems and to present ideas to their peers.’ CHRIStINE GILBERT HER MAJESTY’S CHIEF INSPECTOR FROM TWELVE OUTSTANDING SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The aim of our curriculum at Bartley Green School is to combine the best of the new with traditional values and subjects. Timetable led lessons and activities outside the classroom are designed to challenge pupils, helping them to grow into informed, responsible people able to cope with a complex world.

We see learning as a partnership of activities with the child as its focus. We intend that our pupils should have equality of opportunities in a curriculum that is accessible to all individuals. Teaching at Bartley Green School uses a variety of styles which develop individual thinking and collaborative skills of investigating, experimenting and communicating.

Years 7 & 8 Curriculum

To achieve this pupils are taught in sets. These sets enable faster progress to be made and appropriate challenges to be set and reviewed regularly. All pupils in years 7 and 8 follow a common curriculum:

- Art
- Citizenship & Health Education
- Computing
- Design Technology
- Drama
- English
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Science

Those who are on track to reach expected levels, or higher, will also study a foreign language. Those who require additional support instead receive small group sessions focused on Numeracy & Literacy.
At Bartley Green School we aim to always prepare pupils for the next step, whatever this may be. With regards to the curriculum, in year 9 this means getting pupils ready for Key Stage 4. All pupils start GCSE English and Mathematics. In the remaining subjects the foundations for Key Stage 4 are established where pupils will be taught GCSE/BTEC topics which include:

- Fieldwork in Geography
- The Rise of Hitler in 20th Century Germany
- Fitness and Health in PE.
- Production planning in D.T.
- Using clay, print and textiles in Art
- Improvisation, Script and Devised performance in Drama
- Writing a Music score

Should pupils proceed to undertake a particular pathway subject at Key Stage 4 they already have a solid platform on which to start year 10.

We use a combination of traditional style homework and projects to establish and develop independent learning at home.

Regular weekly homework provide pupils with essential consolidation in their learning.

PLP’s develop our pupils as researchers. Quite early on in Key Stage 3 we also want to build with our pupils these skills and the self disciplines to meet deadlines. In turn this helps develop skills needed for Key Stage 4, college and university, as well as jobs.
Our Results

2018 is the second year of GCSE reforms, with nearly all subjects now moved across to the new 9-1 grading structure. Beyond the change to the grading, the new GCSEs also feature more challenging content with zero coursework and grades based on terminal exams. The Bartley Green School culture of promoting aspiration through high expectations and, crucially, nurturing resilience ensured that the 2018 leavers met the challenge of the new GCSEs head-on; achieving excellent results that will stand them in good stead as they move on to the next phase of their lives.

- Over 40% of pupils achieved at least a grade 7 in one or more of the reformed GCSEs.
- There were 19 grade 9s awarded.
- Close to 10% of pupils achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grade 9-7.
- 65% of pupils achieved a 4+ in English and Mathematics combined, comfortably above the Birmingham average in 2017.
- Approaching three quarters of pupils left with at least one grade 9-4 in science subjects.

As always Bartley Green School had pupils achieving outcomes which would stand up against the very best achieved across the country:-

- Lauren achieved a grade 7 or better in all 10 of her GCSEs including 2 grade 9s and a distinction in Engineering.
- Zach achieved a grade 7 or better in 8 of his 11 GCSEs including 3 grade 9s and 2 grade 8s. Zach took 11 GCSEs; he had a passion for music but wanted to study 'traditional academic' GCSEs – to support Zach in getting the most from his time at Bartley Green School the music department went the extra mile by teaching Zach, with two other pupils, their Music GCSE outside of the normal school timetable (lunchtimes and after school) - all three of these pupils achieved a well-deserved grade 6 in music.
Our Sports

As a consequence of Bartley Green School's outstanding achievement rates for pupils at age 16, The Department for Education, as it is now known, invited the school to apply for a second specialism. Bartley Green School became a Sports College, as well as a Technology College and was one of the first schools in the country to achieve this distinction.

This opportunity has been built on with enthusiasm - A typical range of events beyond the formal timetabled teaching shows what it on offer each week of term time.

This opportunity has made a difference to our pupils. Take a look at what is on offer in addition to well taught lessons on the timetable. There is so much more to sport at Bartley Green School.
IMPROVING FACILITIES

Our pupils deserve the best learning environment possible with the best of equipment and facilities that we can install.
- The tennis courts have been completely rebuilt with new playing surfaces and new fencing. Tennis nets are left in place over the summer term for evening and weekend use by the community.
- We have installed a putting green, outdoor table tennis and table hockey.
- There is a multi-sports area with fenced zones for basketball, netball and football during and after school.
- Our Sports Technician makes available sports equipment for use by pupils at break and lunchtime.

PARTICIPATION

- Latest figures show that over 80% of our pupils enjoy engaging in some sort of physical activity either at break, lunchtime or after school.
- Many pupils are on their way to gaining the “Sports Leader Award”. Pupils are trained to organise and run sporting events for younger pupils at Bartley Green School and for primary pupils. Pupils go to local primaries to supervise sporting activities, and organise competitive sports events.
- All Year 10 and 11 pupils follow a core PE course which is option based, allowing for pupils to opt for a PE activity that will lead to a more personalised learning. Accreditation can be gained for coaching, leadership and performance.
- Pupils are taught about exercise and diet to improve their personal fitness level and, hopefully, to encourage a more healthy lifestyle amongst family and friends too!

THE CURRICULUM

Areas of Study Key Stage 3
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Dance
- Football (Boys & Girls)
- Gymnastics
- Netball
- Orienteering
- Rounders
- Tennis
- Trampolining
- Volleyball

Key Stage 4 Options
- Athletics (compulsory)
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Dance
- Football
- Health Related Exercise (compulsory)
- Netball
- Rugby
- Tennis
- Trampolining
- Volleyball
- Bowling and more .............

ABOVE & BEYOND

- There have been several opportunities to go to Sports Related Activity Centres and participate in trips to Outdoor Education Activity Centres including: Ogwen Cottage - North Wales Oakerwood Outdoor Education Centre - Herefordshire, Torquay National Netball Tour, Belfast Football Trip, Akers Trust - Birmingham, Halesowen Swimming Baths, and we are always looking at new opportunities.
- Our Annual Sports Day is held at Hadley Stadium. The whole school comes to watch. It is a great day with many participants.
Our School Council

At Bartley Green School, our School Council is very important. We think it is essential to provide opportunities for our pupils to take responsibility for improving our school. School Council, for example, acts in a wide variety of ways to gather opinions, make suggestions and influence the way our school develops.

School Council is made up of representatives from each year group. To become a rep you need to have campaigned and been successful in our school elections. The Council regularly meet and a senior member of staff acts as chairperson; that is how important this group is in our school.

There are other ways to share out responsibility for making our school an outstanding place to be. For example we have Year Councils, Sports Leaders and Pupil Leaders. All of whom have a chance to improve our school and share their opinions about how to make our school even better.

The School Council have been involved in a wide range of projects that have all had real outcomes which demonstrates their importance:

- Suggestions for our Rewards schemes
- New summer uniform
- New outdoor furniture for the courtyards
- Working with external agencies
- Redesigned and refitted pupil toilets
- Help with interviews for new staff
- Installed gardens in the school grounds
- Advice towards the Healthy Eating Campaign
- Supported healthy eating menus in the canteen
- Designing social areas with new benches and games
- Organising events for example, fundraising day
Our Rewards Scheme

We are a school that encourages excellent behaviour, a positive approach to learning and pupils’ achievement. Vivo is the most significant way in which we do this. Teachers at Bartley Green School use an electronic points system to reward pupils. Pupils have their own Vivo account which is accessed online, through the schools website.

Teachers can award Vivos for a number of reasons, just a few of the categories are:

- Active Citizenship – For pupils who go above and beyond contributing to the school and local community.
- Determination Award – For pupils who keep trying to improve their learning.
- Team Work Award – For pupils who show excellent team work skills.
- Improvement in Learning Award – For pupils who show an improvement in their work through listening to feedback.
- Outstanding Diary – For pupils who consistently use their diary to an outstanding level.
- Outstanding Equipment – Awarded to pupils who consistently have all their equipment.
- Outstanding Uniform.
- PLPs – Awarded when Gold, Silver and Bronze levels are achieved.
- There are also automatic awards for attendance and punctuality.

Pupils can then purchase items from the Vivo Shop at www.vivomiles.com some of the products available include high street vouchers, stationery, jewellery and sports equipment. Pupils may also donate their Vivos to charity if they wish. It is a great way to share our success as a school community.

In addition, we have our own Vivo shop in school. Pupils can use their Vivos to purchase their equipment (pens, pencils, rulers etc.) along with ping pong balls. Our Vivo shop is open before school and at break time.
Bartley Green School offers a wide range of activities for pupils beyond timetable led lessons. Meeting individual needs to develop personal interests is a vital part of our educational endeavour. We know that interested pupils grow into interested and accomplished adults. The clubs, sports and activities from which pupils may choose, take place at lunchtime, after school, at weekends and during the holidays.

**Lunchtime And After School Clubs**

At lunchtimes pupils also have the opportunity to use ICT rooms or to watch films in the hall on a large screen. The Drama Courtyard provides a quiet area, a no ball games space, for pupils to sit and socialize at the picnic tables provided. The lunchtime and after school clubs include:

- art
- bookworms
- chess
- computers
- dance
- drama
- homework
- library
- mathematics
- music
- science
- singing
- sports teams
- steel pans
- table tennis
- technology
- various sports clubs
INSTRUMENTAL TUITION

The performing arts play a strong part in the life of Bartley Green School. They contribute to the reputation we have for education across the whole range of pupils’ interests.

Instrumental and singing tuition are currently provided for pupils at no additional cost in the Music Department at Bartley Green School.

Usually we will be able to continue to provide specialist tuition for those who already play an instrument. In addition, all pupils will have the chance to audition for the opportunity to learn to play an instrument.

Brass, percussion, strings, vocal, steel pan and woodwind lessons are provided weekly by peripatetic teachers from the Birmingham Music Service.

SPORTS CLUBS & TEAMS

Sporting activity at Bartley Green School is always popular. We now have a number of teams taking part in leagues and friendly matches. There is also a marked increase in the number of internal clubs organised for sporting and athletic activity in school. The range of our sporting and athletic activity shows the spread of interest and accomplishment of Bartley Green School pupils. They include:

- athletics
- badminton
- basketball
- cricket
- dance
- football
- orienteering
- outward bound
- rugby
- tennis
- trampolining
- volleyball

FLEXIBLE LEARNING

Bartley Green School has a long standing commitment to making cultural enrichment a part of the experience of every pupil. Each term there is a planned week of activities that happen instead of the formal timetable.

These weeks leave lasting and happy memories of school days for our pupils and staff. The activity range is wide and we bring in experts and performers to make the weeks unique.

There are times when the school is a crime lab, a research centre, an engineering trial site, a restaurant and much more.

Our commitment is to make Bartley Green School a rich experience, and provide pupils with opportunities they will remember forever.

By the end of our first term each Year 7 pupil has been to the Science Museum, had a tour of London and solved a crime CSI style - this is part of what makes us different.
Our Inspection

In November 2013 our latest inspection took place. It was the third successive outstanding inspection, Bartley Green School has now been outstanding since 2005.

What Ofsted say about Bartley Green School...

*This is an outstanding school.*

*All groups of students achieve outstandingly.*

*All teaching is never less than good and is often outstanding. Teachers know their students very well, having high expectations.*

*Students behaviour is exemplary both in lessons and around school. They are polite and respectful to each other and to adults.*
LEARNING AND SUCCEEDING

Bartley Green School takes pupils from a wide range of abilities and achieves outstanding success with all groups of pupils.

- We believe that all pupils can succeed
- We fast track high ability pupils and offer challenges to stretch and interest them
- We provide smaller classes for those needing extra support
- In Year 9 we personalise learning to suit pupils’ ability. For example, some pupils will start GCSE at this point
- We offer a vast range of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities to all pupils
- Our teaching is consistently very good, engaging and innovative
- We want pupils to enjoy their learning
- We believe in setting by ability, so all pupils can feel assured and be challenged

TRANSITION

Year 7 is a very important stage in the education of pupils. Success at this time leads to greater success in future years. Bartley Green School pays a lot of attention to this move from primary school to secondary school.

As a school we put in place several strategies to make transition successful

- Induction meeting with a senior member of staff
- Induction day for pupils
- Welcome Evening in the Year 7 Autumn term for parents/carers
- Pupil mentors attached to each form group
- Parents’ Evening in the Summer term
- Supportive courses in our Owl centre

Bartley Green School keeps parents and carers fully informed of their child’s progress. Twice a year, in Key Stage 3 and three times in Key Stage 4 parents and carers receive a progress report. There is at least one parents’ day/evening per year and two in year 7.

Bartley Green School also offers parents and carers a chance to view key information on line. This includes electronic copies of the Progress Reports, timetables, attendance data and contact details.

KEEPING IN CONTACT

We like to keep in touch via our website, our twitter feed and regular letters and information, the week by week progress of pupils is also monitored through the Pupil Planner. Parents are invited to write comments when they sign each week. This keeps the form tutor in touch with parents’ and carers’ opinions and a grasp of the work that their son or daughter is doing in school and at home.

The form tutor and Heads of Year can also be contacted at school. Discussions can be arranged either face to face in school, or over the phone if more convenient.
Early in 2011, Bartley Green School took full advantage of its ‘Outstanding’ awarded by Ofsted by becoming one of the first outstanding converter academies in the country.

This change in status enables the school to build for its future and continue to strive for excellence. Our belief is that the Bartley Green community deserves the highest educational provision.

The Governing Body now employs the staff. We can keep up the quality of our skilled teams working in all areas of the school. We are now responsible for our own building and the school estate. We can develop them to fit our vision.

Our school was granted another major recognition of the quality of our work with our pupils and other schools. On July 15th 2011 we were awarded Teaching School status by the National College for School Leadership, when only 100 schools in England were selected for this award. It is at the forefront of the national strategy to improve the quality of school leadership and pupil attainment.

Steve Mumby, Chief Executive of the National College:

‘To take on this role, teaching schools like Bartley Green need to be amongst the best in the country - outstanding in their own performance and have a track record of raising standards through school to school support.’

We are an outstanding school. These changes and developments are our way of making sure we remain outstanding and have a bigger say in our affairs.

Our other partnerships, such as with the CoE Diocese of Birmingham, provide pupils with the wider benefits that we develop for our school in the community.
THE PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS/CARERS

The growing success of Bartley Green School is built on our partnerships with parents. In the day, the evenings and at weekends, the community shares our facilities.

Our high standards are shared by our parents and it is one of the reasons why people choose Bartley Green School as their school. On uniform for example one parent commented, ‘I think a strong uniform policy is important...... It is a good form of discipline and creates a sense of belonging and well being.’

Our partnership with you is vital and a key part of our success.

Our experience shows that individual pupil progress is strongest when parents show a consistent commitment to support their children. In practice this involves:

- ensuring that children attend regularly and are on time
- supporting the school’s code of conduct particularly encouraging good behaviour and wearing correct school uniform
- attending Parents’ Days & Evenings
- contacting us with changes in circumstance, concerns or issues that need settling
- providing a school bag with the equipment needed for the school day
- encouraging pupils to join clubs and attend homework support sessions
- checking and signing the pupil’s Planner
- discussing with pupils their curriculum and supporting them by attending the relevant support and guidance events that the school organises

PUPIL EXPERIENCES

A great deal of what goes on in the school life of a typical Bartley Green School pupil is centred on the form and the form tutor.

On our PSHE days each form group takes part in a range of activities designed to support and guide them. We aim to develop not only high achievers but also responsible citizens too. Some example of those partners we work with on these days:

- AQUARIUS
- SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE
- FIRST AID TRAINERS
- BANKS
- COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
- FITNESS & LIFESTYLE EXPERTS
- FIRE BRIGADE
- POLICE

The Form works like a family then. It is the familiar and reassuring meeting place. It helps pupils - particularly when they first come here - to understand ‘Our Way of Learning’. Bartley Green School has a whole lot of expectations so that relationships between us work well. It is our school culture and it is the heart of our outstanding success as a school.

YEAR 6 INDUCTION DAY
Information

Ofsted Report

Details of the Governing Body

Times of the School Day

Special Needs & Disability Provision

The Governors’ Charging Policy

A comprehensive list of our policies can be found on the school website.