



BIRKENHEAD
SCHOOL
SENIORS

THE SUNDAY TIMES

SCHOOLS GUIDE
2025

INDEPENDENT SECONDARY
SCHOOL OF THE YEAR
NORTH WEST

A warm welcome to
Seniors Open Day



Headmaster's Presentation: 9.45am & 11.45am

Bushell Hall

Open Day Times: 9.30am - 12.30pm

Seniors
Ages 11-16

Sixth Form
Ages 16-18

Welcome to Birkenhead School

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to Birkenhead School's Open Day.

We are proud to state that as a school our focus is to know each individual, to develop their core values and to provide a breadth of academic and wider opportunities that nurtures resilient, ambitious and responsible young men and women.

We take a rigorous approach to academic study, achieving the highest grades, but firmly believe that the path students take and the challenges they overcome are of equal importance. We strive to create a learning environment where teachers have the freedom to inspire, and where students learn because they are engaged and curious.

As Headmaster, I take great pride in each pupil feeling known and valued within our community. We look to add value at every step of the educational journey driven by a co-curricular programme whose scope and quality allows each individual to find their niche, wherever it may lie.

I hope that today offers you an insight into life at the School and what makes Birkenhead School a special community to be part of. I look forward to speaking to you during the day, and tailoring a personalised visit to the School at a later stage.



Mr Paul Vicars



Programme of Events in Seniors & Sixth Form

9.45am & 11.45pm Headmaster's Talk

Bushell Hall

See selected sports and clubs in action and speak to staff about our co-curricular programme during the day:

9.30am - 12.30pm	Drama & Music	McAllester Building
9.30am - 12.30pm	Beyond the Curriculum & Etiquette Lessons	Overdale
9.30am - 12.30pm	Duke of Edinburgh's Award	School Field
9.30am - 12.30pm	Climbing Club / Bouldering	Climbing Wall
10.30am - 12.30pm	Table Tennis	Squash Court
9.30am - 12.30pm	Public-Speaking & Debating Clubs	Library
10.30am - 12.30pm	Science Leaders / Science Club / Olympiads	Science Labs PH1/2
Sports		
9.30am - 12.30pm	Netball	McAllester Court
9.30am - 12.30pm	Cricket	School Field
Midday	Tour of McAllester Field, Sports Facilities	Meet outside Sports Hall with Director of Sport
Chapel		
9.30am - 12.30pm	Meet Mrs Hobbs, School Chaplain	Chapel
School Nurse		
10.30am-11.30am	Meet Mrs Parry, School Nurse	Overdale

Refreshments are available from the Sixth Form Centre during the morning.

What's On

<p>Art</p>	<p>Biology</p>	<p>Business & Economics</p>	<p>Chemistry & Junior Science</p>	<p>Computing & ICT</p>
<p>Art Rooms See a wonderful selection of 2D and 3D work from Year 7 to Upper Sixth students and talk to staff about studying Art at GCSE and A Level.</p>	<p>PH3 Find out what some animals have under their skin while watching others crawl around. Meet genetically engineered bacteria and test some of your favourite foods for nutrients.</p>	<p>Meeting Room Find out more about studying Business and Economics at A Level.</p>	<p>PH2 Come along to see, hear and feel the effect of chemical reactions. Flames, fizzing and colour promised!</p>	<p>Meeting Room Come and see if you can crack the code and find out more about studying Computing & ICT.</p>
<p>Design & Technology</p>	<p>Drama</p>	<p>English</p>	<p>Geography</p>	<p>History</p>
<p>D&T Labs See examples of GCSE and A Level work exhibited. There will be CAD CAM demonstrations of laser cutting and 3D Printing technology.</p>	<p>McAllester Building Find out more about studying Drama at the School and recent School productions. Talk to students and see them perform.</p>	<p>Library Take part in a range of fun activities in English today including our own 'Lines from Literature Quiz', 'Lets Debate' and 'Perfect Poetry'.</p>	<p>School Field Take part in interactive world quizzes and games in and find out about field work opportunities both at home and abroad which includes our recent trips to Iceland & Italy</p>	<p>School Field Can you guess who the famous historical figures are? Match the faces to the names of some of the most famous people in history.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p>	<p>Modern Foreign Languages</p>	<p>Music</p>	<p>Physics</p>	<p>Psychology</p>
<p>Meeting Room Speak to our Maths department and try your hand at safe-cracking to win the mystery prize inside or use your probability skills to win a prize on Play Your Cards Right.</p>	<p>School Field Find out more about learning French and Spanish at School. Have a go at the French Pétanque game or Spanish and French board games. Prizes available for the winners!</p>	<p>McAllester Building Speak to our Music specialists to find out about the wide range of musical opportunities available including instrumental tuition, bands, ensembles, choirs and our annual Festival of Arts.</p>	<p>PH1 Find out more about the wonderful world of Physics from staff and our young Science Leaders - see demonstrations of stationary waves and build your own electrical circuit.</p>	<p>PH2 Find out more about studying Psychology A Level.</p>
<p>Religious Education</p>	<p>Sport (PE & Games)</p>	<p>Welcome to Overdale</p>	<p>Futures & Sixth Form Team</p>	
<p>School Field See artefacts from each world religion that we study in Seniors and find out about the topics we cover and the resources used.</p>	<p>Sports Hall & Field See our Strength & Conditioning Gyms, have a go at table-tennis or scale new heights and have a go on our Climbing Wall. Take a tour of our facilities at McAllester Field at midday - meet outside the Sports Hall</p>	<p>Overdale Meet students and pastoral staff and discover more about the opportunities available in Seniors including our exciting Beyond the Curriculum programme.</p>	<p>Meeting Room Meet members of Sixth Form along with members of our specialist Futures team who provide careers and university guidance for students in Seniors & Sixth Form.</p>	

Specialist staff are available to meet in the following locations during the day:

Principal

Mr Paul Vicars - Bushell Hall & Sixth Form Centre

Head of Seniors

Mr Tom Whitworth - Sixth Form Centre

Bursar (Bursaries)

Mr Danny Byrne - Sixth Form Centre

Seniors & Sixth Form Admissions

Ms Julie Hopper - Sixth Form Centre

Head of Sixth Form

Ms Louise Smeaton - Sixth Form Centre

Head of Overdale (Year 7 & 8)

Mrs Sharon Tharme - Overdale

School SENDCo

Ms Zillah Edwards - Overdale

School Nurse

Mrs Parry- Overdale & Prep

Admissions

Ms Julie Hopper is available in the Sixth Form Centre to answer questions relating to Admissions, Scholarships and upcoming Assessment Days.

Assessment Days for 2026 Entry to Seniors:

Year 5 Assessment Days - 8 /9/10 June 2026

Year 6 Assessment Days - January 2027

*Seniors has been over-subscribed in recent years and early application is strongly encouraged. For those applying for entry to Year 7, bursaries are considered twice during the year; in the Michaelmas Term for those who have undertaken the Year 5 Assessment; and in February following the Year 6 Assessment.**

** Families should be aware that dependent on the outcome of the June Year 5 assessment days, there may be fewer places and limited bursary funding left for those attending the January Year 6 assessment days.*

