

Baines House

at Prior Park College



Prior Park
College



BAINES HOUSE

Baines House has been set up to smooth the transition from junior to senior school.

While the modern purpose built house provides a tangible meeting place for all our Year 7 students, it is the staff and the care that the students receive that is the essence of Baines House. Mrs Charis Saunders-Prouse, has been Baines Housemistress since 2012. Mrs SP (as she is known by the students) is a devoted and tireless leader and, along with her tutors, they make a dynamic team. You can be confident that the needs of your son or daughter will be well and truly met.

“ When you first join Prior, you do every subject there is to get a feel for them, and you really do learn something new every day. The teachers are very straightforward and if there’s something you don’t understand, don’t hesitate to ask! ”



All about BAINES HOUSE

Baines House with its Housemistress and team of tutors, look after our 11-12 year old students. Baines is situated close to the centre of the teaching block, so the pupils are well placed, and it is surrounded by gardens. The building offers a common room, ICT facilities, office space, changing and locker rooms and there is an outdoor play area.

There are four co-educational tutor groups within the House. Within these, your son or daughter will be looked after by a tutor, whom they will meet two times per day. Baines pupils will be strongly linked with Brownlow, our year 8 House.

As such they will be entered in 'House' competitions as well as sharing some assemblies and homework opportunities. Mrs SP's vision for Baines House is one where all the students feel at home and are able to grow spiritually, emotionally and

academically within a safe and inclusive environment.

The move up to senior school can be daunting for both children and parents, and so she helps to ease the transition by making sure the channels of communication between home and school are open and effective. Mrs SP also encourages Baines pupils to take ownership and responsibility for themselves, so that they learn greater independence and develop a deeper emotional intelligence.





BAINES

is a happy place

Baines House is a happy place where friendships are made, challenges are set and successes are celebrated.

As parents you will understand the importance of supporting and guiding your soon-to-be teens. On the cusp of becoming more independent, they still need to learn to manage the demands of senior school life and cope with the myriad of changes that puberty brings - these all require firm but empathetic guidance. While the challenges are many, the rewards are extraordinary and my colleagues and I at Prior Park College feel very privileged in our roles.

Baines is a haven in which the students have the time to absorb all the new facets of College life including timetable, new subjects and Prep. It is also a fun and kind environment, a place where new

friendships are made and nurtured.

I lead a team of tutors who each take responsibility for a group of around fifteen students, and it is those tutors who provide the key to understanding much of all that is new, and of removing any anxiety. To this end, communication between the tutor and parent is of paramount importance.

As part of your prospective journey, you are welcome to meet with me to discuss how Prior Park College and Baines House can best support your child's aspirations.

Charis Saunders-Prouse,
Baines Housemistress

WHAT ELSE DO WE DO IN BAINES?

Here are just a few examples of the activities and events that makes life in Baines so special

Trips

Skern Lodge in Devon is an obligatory but anticipated part of the L3 (Year 7) curriculum. Students are encouraged to participate in a variety of activities from abseiling to orienteering, with a particular focus on teamwork. Other trips include Lulworth Cove, Eden Project and Chedworth castle.



Music

House Music events are always well contested. Each tutor group performs a solo, group and House song, which can be very diverse! Students are also encouraged to participate in the annual College Band Night and join the many groups, choirs, orchestras and shows that the Music Department offers.



Fundraising

The Great Baines Bake Off, table tennis tournaments, mufti days, Christmas boxes, Mrs SP in the stocks - Baines students think up delicious and hilarious ways to raise funds for the school charities.



Not Forgetting..

Fisher Road Relay, Spelling Bee, House debating competition, drama, Baines House Disco, movie nights, sports tournaments - there is something for everyone in Baines.

WHAT WILL YOUR COLLEGE LIFE BE LIKE?

by Baines pupils Miranda, Mimi, Livie and Felicity

Your typical morning at Baines will start at 8.15am, when the doors to Baines will open. Most people will put their gear in the changing room and then chat with friends until 8.30am, when there will either be assembly or you will go to your tutor group for registration.

The school year consists of two different weeks, Week A and Week B. These different weeks will have roughly the same lessons with some variation. For instance, you might have PSHCE one week, but not the next.

After you have visited your tutor or the assembly has finished, you go to Period 1 on your timetable. Each lesson lasts roughly one hour, with five minutes to get to your next lesson. After Period 2 you come back to Baines for a twenty minute break, during which time snacks can be purchased from the tuck shop.

Sometimes, after Period 3, you might have a free period and you can go to lunch early.

When the bell goes at the end of Period 6, you have reached the end of formal lessons. You can then return to Baines for juice, fruit and toast! Next up is Prep, which ends at 5.45pm. If you've signed up for a club on a particular day then you go to your club instead. Every week you are allowed an early home. This means that you can go home at 4.45pm.

In Baines everyone's encouraged to take at least one activity a week. Here's an example of a pupil's weekly activities' list -

Monday: DT or textiles club
 Tuesday: LAMDA drama club
 Wednesday: Early home (at 4.45pm)
 Thursday: Prep
 Friday: Orchestra
 Activities in the week start at 4.45pm and end at 6.00pm. We'd advise that you have at least one prep session a week, because otherwise you will have to do all of your homework at home.

At Prior, it's very hard not to find any activities that suit you. From art club to fencing - there are a lot to choose from. These clubs take place during Prep, or, if you choose to take part in Saturday Active, which take place on Saturday mornings, and where there are more activities on offer, such as creative writing, golf and sailing.

At Prior Park we have a wide range of activities to choose from. We are 100% sure that there will be something for you!

A TYPICAL COLLEGE WEEK

AN EXAMPLE WEEK FOR A BAINES PUPIL

- Prior Park College has a two week timetable, rotating between Week A or B (Only subject lessons change between the different weeks)
- Games times are fixed, other lessons rotating from Week A to Week B
- Saturday Active is optional for all pupils

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8.30am	House Assembly	Tutor Time	Tutor Time	Tutor Time / Sectional Assemblies	Whole School Assembly	
PERIOD 1 9.00am - 9.55am	DT	MUSIC	MANDARIN	GEOGRAPHY	PE	
PERIOD 2 10.00am - 10.55am	ENGLISH	IT	ENGLISH	SCIENCE	ART	Saturday Active 10.00am - 11.30am Library open for all
10.55am - 11.20am	Break					
PERIOD 3 11.20am - 12.15pm	L3 & F3 Games	SPANISH	MATHEMATICS	LATIN	SCIENCE	
PERIOD 4 12.20pm - 1.15pm	L3 & F3 Games	Extended Lunch	Extended Lunch	HISTORY	Extended Lunch	
1.15pm - 2.30pm	Lunch Activities / Rehearsals Registration					
PERIOD 5 2.30pm - 3.25pm	MATHEMATICS	SCIENCE	L3 & F3 Games	ART	MUSIC	
PERIOD 6 3.30pm - 4.25pm	SCIENCE	THEOLOGY	L3 & F3 Games	DRAMA	IT	Sports fixtures (compulsory for all pupils selected)
4.25pm - 4.45pm	Break / Registration / Committees					
4.45pm - 5.45pm	Activities / Rehearsals / Supervised Prep					
6.00pm	College buses depart*					

*College buses depart at 5.00pm on Fridays

11+ ENTRANCE EXAMINATION & SCHOLARSHIP SUMMARY

- All candidates for 11+ entry to Prior Park College must in the first instance fill in a Registration Form to formally enter the College's prospective family database.
- The 11+ Taster Day takes place in the October prior to entry.
- In the year prior to entry, registered families are invited to make an appointment to meet with the Headmaster. They may request a tour of the school as well.
- All registered candidates will be invited to sit Entrance Examinations at the College in the January of their year of entry.
- The examinations consist of a 45 minute creative writing English paper, a one hour mathematics paper and a one hour computer based assessment CEM SELECT EVALUATE. There is a familiarisation website for this assessment that parents and candidates can access at www.intuproject.org/CEMselect/CSFamiliarisation.html
- On the Entrance Examinations day, candidates will also enjoy some interactive workshops and some periods of relaxation alongside the assessments to help break up the day and make it a more enjoyable experience. Candidates will also have many opportunities to meet other students and to be shown around the school.
- Pupils applying for a place on the Learning Development Programme will be given 25% additional time in mathematics and English papers if recommended in a current Ed. Psy. Report.
- Note that ALL candidates who sit the Entrance Examinations are considered for an Academic Award. Therefore there are no separate scholarship papers and no separate application is needed.
- Our Scholarships Booklet 'Scholarship Opportunities at Prior Park College' can be downloaded from the **Admissions** page of our website: www.priorparkcollege.com/admissions
- Candidates who wish to apply to be assessed for a special talent scholarship in Art, Drama, Music, Product Design or Sport must fill in the relevant application form which can be downloaded from the Admissions page of our website. See our website for the closing date for applications for these awards.
- Candidates can apply for up to two special talent awards.
- The assessment dates for Art, Drama, Music, Product Design and Sport awards take place in December prior to year of entry.



11+ ADMISSIONS

- BY VICKI QUINN, REGISTRAR



As Registrar it is my pleasure to work with parents in ensuring that the admissions process is as smooth and transparent as possible. I welcome your enquiry either by phone or email, at which time we will discuss your child's interests, his or her current school and year of entry to senior school.

We will ensure that you are kept up to date on key dates, receive invites to Open Days and school events, and have the opportunity to meet other families. When appropriate, we can also offer a private tour of the College and an interview with the Headmaster.

The Admissions page on our website gives a summary of the entrance exam process. It is also another source of information for you and provides an overview of the school, news and accomplishments of current pupils, as well as curricular and extra-curricular facts and figures.

Our aim is to admit pupils with academic and other qualities such that the child would gain the maximum benefit from the opportunities available at Prior Park, whilst maintaining a balance between day and boarding pupils, boys and girls.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. I look forward to hearing from you.

Mrs Vicki Quinn, Registrar

T: 01225 831 000

E: admissions@priorparkschools.com



“ My son very much wanted to go to Prior Park from his first visit. He found the staff and the students friendly and welcoming, which made him feel at home and that he mattered.

Baines Parent

“ We have two very happy girls who have never, in all their years at Prior, had to be asked twice to get up and get ready for school!

Baines Parent



Prior Park College

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11-18 Day & Boarding HMC Established
Co-educational Catholic Senior School

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