




Sarah Bonnell School

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A proud history. An exciting future.

A group of five young women in school uniforms are walking in a hallway. The woman in the center is smiling broadly and wearing a dark blazer over a blue shirt. The other four women are also smiling and wearing similar uniforms. A large, semi-transparent blue box with white text is overlaid on the image, containing a quote. The background shows a typical school hallway with a drop ceiling and recessed lights.

“Sarah Bonnell has shaped me into a confident leader and has enabled me to lead a successful team. Being Head Girl has inspired me to greater things”

*Samiya Malik*

# Welcome



Welcome to Sarah Bonnell School where we are committed to providing our girls with a breadth of experiences which encourage them to participate fully in the life of the school. We are proud of our tradition as one of the oldest schools for girls in the country however we are forward looking, working in partnership with our parents, carers and local community to ensure that students are provided with an inspiring environment and an education of the highest quality.

We have an aspirational culture, encouraging students to become confident young women; developing their leadership skills and their desire to achieve their best not just academically but in the skills and strategies which will enable them to have a successful future in an ever changing global community.

Sarah Bonnell has a dedicated staff who ensure that all students feel safe, are valued and accepted and are given the opportunity to succeed whatever their starting point. Our GCSE results have improved steadily over the last three years reflecting the hard work of both staff and our fantastic students.

I hope that you will find the information here informative, however if you would like to visit and see the school in action for yourself please do not hesitate to contact us and we would be pleased to show you around.

**Sarah Jacobs**

Headteacher

# A proud history. An exciting future.

Sarah Bonnell is a high achieving distinctive learning community in which all girls receive the support guidance and encouragement they need to become successful confident well rounded young women. Our school values are encompassed in our motto:

**Be Proud, Aim High, Work Hard, Be Nice, No Excuses.**



“Students work hard, and are interested and keen to improve and refine their work. They show exceptional resilience in taking the initiative in solving problems and in supporting and helping each other. Their high aspirations and willingness to work hard prepares them well for the next stage of education or employment”.



“The school is a highly cohesive community with students from rich and diverse cultural heritages. They are supported through a flexible curriculum which strongly promotes students’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. The mix of options, bridging courses, catch up learning and induction courses prepares students well for examination courses. Students benefit from a wealth of clubs, visits and visitors”.

Ofsted



# Be Proud

**Every student** is a unique member of our learning community, we celebrate our history and diversity in many forums.

“It makes me proud of what I have achieved and what I am planning to achieve” *Gintare 11B*

Student Leadership is key to the success of our school. Listening to the young people at Sarah Bonnell plays a vital role in promoting the views of students, as well as developing their leadership skills. Each Year Group has a Year Forum and representatives on the Student Executive Council and the Prefects are led by the Head Girl and her team of Senior Prefects.

We recognise our student's achievements every step of the way and ensure we celebrate in their success. We provide a wealth of leadership opportunities for them to participate in.

We pride ourselves on our vibrant linguistic offer; during their time here students have the opportunity to study a range of languages including: French Spanish, Arabic, Urdu, Italian and German alongside taking a GCSE in a home language.

We are developing strong links with a number of Universities both locally and nationally. Students have participated in seminars and workshops including Law, Business and Finance, Medicine, Engineering and Creative Media. These experiences have supported students with next steps at the end of Year 11.

# Aim High

We have high aspirations and instil a **'can do'** attitude in all that we do, as a result we have a proven track record of success on many levels.

Our successful Business Action Group promotes aspiration through; careers insight visits, inspirational speakers and opportunities to enhance students understanding of the world beyond education. Students have had the chance to visit places such as Google, KPMG and Barclays. They also have the chance to hear talks from a range of speakers most recently these have included Mishal Husain, a BBC news and radio reporter, Deborah Landis, a Hollywood Costume Designer and Nagin Cox, a NASA Scientist. Following on from the talk from Nagin Cox, one of our students won a competition to go to Space Camp in the USA. An opportunity of a lifetime!

We encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning. Students are set aspirational targets for success and regularly track their academic progress. This is shared with parents at our Learning Review Days and at Year Group Subject Parents Evenings.

## **Our results are going from strength to strength.**

English Maths and Science have smaller class sizes to ensure learning is tailored to meet each student's needs.

Over the last three years, our GCSE results continued on the upward trend with student's achieving improved results year on year.

English results are significantly above the national average for girls placing Sarah Bonnell in the top 20% of the country.



*"From careers insight days to working closely with the School Council I have always been impressed with the level of engagement from the students. The school is well managed, focused and has a lot to offer prospective students."*

**Nicola King**  
(Lawyer, Pinset Masons)



“Aim High means to reach my goals and achieve them”

*Diana 8A*



“Try your best in everything  
and never give up” *Afiya 11L*

# Work Hard

**‘Figure it out’**, our latest Sarah Bonnell music single was written by students and charted in the iTunes download chart. The chorus line includes ‘what you put in is what you get out’, a mantra we live by on a daily basis.

**We offer a broad, balanced and personalised curriculum which meets the needs of all our learners. Developing high level literacy, numeracy and communication skills are core to our lessons.**

We are an inclusive school and our Access and Inclusion Department works with students and their families to ensure that all learners are able to achieve success at Sarah Bonnell. We work closely with professionals from a range of agencies to ensure we have the highest level of care for all our students. Students receive specialist support including in-class support, subject specific intervention, one to one and group support and enrichment activities.

Learning outside the classroom enriches our curriculum, every year students experience visits abroad and active outdoor residentials. We have strong links with schools in Argentina, Morocco and Germany.

We encourage participation in extra-curricular sport and lunch-time activities, our wide offer has something for everyone!

Alongside academic success students have a history of winning prestigious competitions. Our 2014 Amnesty Group won the Best Campaigning Activity in the National Youth Awards!

Sarah Bonnell School is recognised nationally by the Arts Council England and we have been awarded with ‘Gold Artsmark’ in recognition of the school’s commitment to, and excellence in, arts education

At Sarah Bonnell we have nurtured and developed extraordinary relationships with internationally known organisations such as the BBC, the Globe, the National Theatre, the Barbican and artists such as Ollie Harrop. This gives students an experience not only to motivate them within the Expressive Arts curriculum areas but in the wider life of the school. We work on building confidence, communication and working collaboratively in a team, all skills that are vital across every subject in our school.

Our exciting collaboration with the Barbican through our weekly music club ‘Drum Works’ saw 15 of our students record the piece ‘Connect It’ for BBC’s ‘Ten Pieces’.

# Be Nice

Our Student Leadership Team are role models for behaviour and support as **'Big Sisters'** to Year 7 Students.




**The move from primary school to Sarah Bonnell is supported by an excellent transition programme with a dedicated team of staff working to ensure that all girls become successful Sarah Bonnell students.**

We understand that every girl is different and will need an individualised approach to joining secondary school. We have a Y7, Y8 and Y9 Transition Group which allows us to provide a tailored programme of support and intervention for those students who need it most.

Our state of the art school environment is spacious and well equipped with resources including computers, laptops and iPads for student use. We are looking forward to a new building programme that will include a new Learning Hub and conference facility.

Respect for ourselves, each other and our surroundings is at the heart of our ethos.

A group of diverse schoolgirls in uniform are laughing and talking outdoors. In the foreground, a girl with a light blue hijab is smiling broadly, looking towards a girl with long blonde hair who is also laughing. To the right, another girl with a light purple hijab is laughing while holding an open book. The background shows other students in uniform, some also wearing hijabs, in a school setting.

“Be nice to others  
and others will  
be nice to you”

*Smayya 10E*

“Take responsibility  
for your actions” *Adwoz 9B*



# No Excuses

We **always** give 100% to everything we do.

Behaviour at Sarah Bonnell has been judged as **Outstanding by Ofsted**.

**“Students have excellent relationships with staff. Students feel well supported and cared for. They told inspectors they were highly valued, felt their voice was heard and they were encouraged to do the very best they can”.**

**We have clear, high expectations of behaviour and attendance. Our attendance is consistently high and we work closely with students and their families to ensure every student can achieve 100% attendance.**

There is a unique structure of support for each year group; this consists of a non-teaching Year Leader in addition to a Progress Leader. This ensures each student's emotional and educational welfare is supported at all times. All students are part of a form group and tutors work closely with parents to ensure that every girl is successful at Sarah Bonnell.

We believe that collaboration with and regular communication between Parents/Carers and the school is vital for students to be successful and we work hard to ensure that the partnership between student, school and home is as effective as it can be.





Sarah Bonnell School

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