



# BARTON COURT ACADEMY TRUST

Barton Court Academy Trust consist of 3 secondary schools:

Barton Court Grammar School (The Lead School)  
The Charles Dickens School (joined on 1 March 2017)  
BCAT Free School, due to open in September 2020

## **BCAT Mission Statement**

Barton Court Academy Trust (BCAT) will provide aspirational educational opportunities in all its academies to improve the life chances of its children and young people; delivered through strong partnerships between staff, students and parents that share our core values of excellence and equity.

## **VALUES**

**A**chievement  
**C**hallenge/Creativity/Confidence  
**H**igh Aspiration  
**I**ndependent thinkers  
**E**quality  
**V**alued  
**E**xcellence



# Barton Court Grammar School

An Academy of Excellence

## **Barton Court Grammar School**

Barton Court Grammar School is an 11-18 years, selective, co-educational, Grammar school in Canterbury, Kent. The School is highly popular and is oversubscribed.

## **Mission Statement**

At Barton Court Grammar school students are supported, inspired and challenged to achieve their very best in all that they do in order to reach their full potential and academic excellence. Students develop into independent and resilient learners who are able to succeed in an ever-changing and technological world. When they leave Barton Court, students are articulate, confident and principled young people who have made a positive contribution to their school and the wider community.

*"Barton Court Grammar School is a forward thinking school that provides outstanding education"*  
OFSTED

The School has an excellent reputation in the local community, is recognised by Ofsted as 'Outstanding' in all areas and is the lead school in the Barton Court Academy Trust. It is an extremely exciting time to be joining the School; recently the School has appointed a new Head of School to work with the Executive Headteacher on the next phase of the School's development and in January opened a new multi-million pound learning facility housing state-of-the-art science laboratories, new canteen facilities and 6 brand new Mathematics classrooms.

We are very proud of our student achievements; in 2017 students achieved 48% A\*/A and 97% A\*-C inc. English and Mathematics at GCSE. Our P8 score for 2017 was outstanding and on this indicator the School was ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in Kent. At A Level students achieved 54% A\*-B with the vast majority of our students going onto prestigious university places.

Barton Court Grammar School is an innovative and forward-thinking school. It attracts many international students, Post-16, which supports our culture and ethos of developing responsible global citizens, with cultural and international awareness, who positively contribute to our school and the wider community.

Excellence in teaching and learning is at the heart of our school. In June 2017 the School was accredited as an Advanced Thinking School in recognition of the outstanding work we do in cognitive education. A Thinking School is '*an educational community in which all members share a common commitment to giving regular careful thought to everything that takes place. This will involve both students and staff learning how to think reflectively, critically and creatively, and to employing these skills and techniques in the construction of a meaningful curriculum, both academic and pastoral.*'  
(Professor Bob Burden).

We are extremely proud to be the only Thinking School in Canterbury and East Kent and one of a few Advanced Thinking Schools in the UK.

We have an innovative curriculum with all students studying a compressed KS3 and opting at the end of Year 8 for their GCSE courses. Students take the majority of their GCSEs at the end of Year 11. An individualised learning curriculum catering for the needs of learners is in place at KS4. The School is currently looking for ways to further innovate its curriculum offer in the Sixth Form.

The School offers a supportive environment where teachers, leaders and support staff are all challenged to develop and grow.



# The Charles Dickens School

Expect, Believe, Achieve

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## **The Charles Dickens School**

The Charles Dickens School is an 11-16 years, non-selective, co-educational, school in Broadstairs, Kent. The School is highly popular and is oversubscribed. The Sixth Form was temporarily suspended by KCC in 2016, but BCAT plan to re-open this in the future.

The Charles Dickens School is striving for excellence for all individuals. We have high standards and high expectations and we encourage and support all students and staff to achieve their best, be happy and enjoy their time at the School. We became formally part of Barton Court Academy Trust (BCAT) on 1 March 2017, whose lead school is Barton Court Grammar School in Canterbury and we work closely with this school to ensure excellence is delivered.

Our school community is based upon mutual support and respect and we value students and staff contribution to the life of the School. All students and staff are encouraged to develop a love of learning and to develop into confident individuals ready for the challenges of the 21st Century.

Students and staff are encouraged to show initiative and take on roles of responsibility within the School to develop skills of leadership and management.

## **Our Mission Statement:**

**“Whatever I have tried to do in life, I have tried with all my heart to do it well; whatever I have devoted myself to, I have devoted myself completely; in great aims and in small I have always thoroughly been in earnest.”** *Charles Dickens*

At The Charles Dickens School, we are dedicated to enabling all students to achieve their potential. We pride ourselves on being a challenging, innovative and inclusive community. We are dedicated to our students' development both as learners and as responsible young adults.

## **Our school values are:**

**C**ompassion  
**A**spiration  
**R**esilience  
**E**nthusiasm

Students learn best when they are happy and valued; supported, challenged and encouraged, so at The Charles Dickens School we take care to ensure our students' education is both enriching and enjoyable.

We aspire to be a truly 21st Century school, concerned not just with what our students learn, but with how they learn, and how they grow in confidence, independence and critical thinking. We have introduced the 'Thinking Schools' programme from September 2017 which will ensure that learning is at the heart of the children's thinking.

The success of The Charles Dickens School will be due to a strong partnership between staff, students and parents and a clear understanding of our core values.

Our vision is to be an 'outstanding school' underpinning all aspects of school life for both students and staff.

We have introduced an innovatory curriculum with all students studying a compressed KS3 and opting at the end of Year 8 for their GCSE courses. Students choose from a wide range of academic and vocational GCSE/BTEC options. We have introduced a "secondary ready" curriculum for students in Y7 & Y8 who are not yet ready for the transition to secondary education and a Gifted and Talented programme for our most able.

The School is working towards accreditation as a "Thinking School". We have placed thinking at the heart of our learning & teaching and we are developing a common visual language of Thinking Tools to enable our students to become independent, confident, thoughtful, life-long learners. We believe that thinking students will be successful in their learning and life beyond The Charles Dickens School. We are working with Exeter University towards accreditations as a Thinking School and this takes approximately three years to achieve with accreditation expected in Jan 2020.

Time is being well spent on developing opportunities for our students to take on leadership roles within the School, to not only improve their leadership skills and confidence, but allow students to work in productive teams, take on more responsibility and work together for the benefit of each other, our school and local community.

Student Voice and the House events have developed further under this new student leadership structure ensuring that students feel listened to, valued and able to contribute to their school.

Our aim is for The Charles Dickens School to be "outstanding" within 5 years.



### **BCAT Free School**

The BCAT Free School is due to open on the former Chaucer Technology School site in September 2020. The Free School is designed to be an 11-18 years, co-educational, non-selective school with 6 forms of entry. It is planned as a centre of excellence for vocational subjects at KS4 and KS5 along with a joint Sixth Form provision with Barton Court Grammar School offering academic qualifications at Post-16.

The curriculum will follow a similar model to that offered at The Charles Dickens School with a “Grammar Stream”, Main Pathway, and a “Secondary Ready/Alternative Pathway” offered at both KS3 and KS4 to ensure that the teaching and learning meets the needs of all learners.

A Gifted and Talented Programme will be led by Barton Court Grammar School ensuring students are stretched and challenged to fulfil their full potential.

As the School will be co-sited with Barton Court Grammar School there will be an opportunity for staff to teach/work across both schools as well as to support The Charles Dickens School.