



# SARAH BONNELL

## SCHOOL



BE PROUD



AIM HIGH



WORK HARD



BE KIND



NO EXCUSES



# Welcome



Welcome to Sarah Bonnell School - a wonderful girls school with achievement and well-being at the centre of everything we do. The school has a great track record for teaching girls in an innovative and engaging way, and this has an impressive impact on achievement.

Sarah Bonnell is a happy school because it is based upon the right values. Our motto, which was developed by the students, explains these values and gives important guidance for all members of the school community to follow: **Be Proud. Aim High. Work Hard. Be Kind. No Excuses.** As a result, Sarah Bonnell School is buzzing with positive attitudes and behaviour and is a place where staff inspire and support all girls to be the best that they can be.

At Sarah Bonnell we are focussed on making sure your daughter learns and achieves in an environment where she feels safe, valued and encouraged to try new things without a fear of failure. We focus on ensuring your daughter is able to get the best qualifications possible and to develop skills, attitudes and behaviour that prepare her to make a positive contribution to society.

Our school facilities are exceptional with well-resourced classrooms that really motivate and support students and staff. This year we are beginning another exciting building project to ensure even better provision for all students.

Sarah Bonnell School is a place where diversity is celebrated and prejudice is challenged. We are committed to being an anti-racist school providing opportunities for staff and students to learn about the history of British racism, the present day experience of racism and the actions and attitudes required to promote social justice, diversity and inclusion.

There is so much for your daughter to benefit from here and I look forward to meeting you when you visit the school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rae Potter'.

**Rae Potter**  
Headteacher

# A proud history. An exciting future.

Sarah Bonnell is a great place to learn and achieve. 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 Kind. No Excuses.**



# Head Girl Welcome



At Sarah Bonnell we aim to create a space where girls can develop and grow into strong independent women. We are given the tools we need to prepare for the real world such as being taught by skilled staff members who continue to push us in our journey, and having lessons based on our diverse learning curriculum.

As we prepare ourselves for the future we are always given the opportunity for freedom of speech. The students here understand that their words can echo positivity and greatness. Our voices matter and have had a huge impact which has led to our success as a school and a wider community.

Here at Sarah Bonnell we build a positive mindset and participate in enhanced learning days to motivate the students to build their self confidence. As a girls school we are keen on celebrating success and emphasising unity and embrace this by championing each other.

As the current head girl I aim to amplify the message of resilience and that by thinking positively about ourselves we can face the obstacles that challenge us. Every student that achieves both big and small accomplishments should be applauded for their own excellence.

To embody the Sarah Bonnell values, I want to implement my motto “Strength in yourself, strength in each other, stronger together.” to the daily life of the students so they feel a sense of belonging and community that they are proud of. With the help of students, staff and parents I know that this following year will be full of personal growth and success.

**“The school motto is ‘Be Proud, Aim High, Work Hard, Be Kind, No Excuses’; staff and pupils live this motto to the full. Pupils are quite rightly very proud of their school and their own excellent achievements”.**

February 2018

# Aim High. Work Hard.



“Teaching in the school is consistently strong and supports the learning culture well. Teachers share good practice very effectively across the school and with local school partners. Leaders and teachers constantly review their practice in teaching, learning and assessment to ensure that they are of consistently high quality”

February 2018

# Be Proud

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

**“Showing pride in our work means we are producing the best work we can”**

*Year 11 student*

**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 Council with representatives sitting on the Student Executive Council.**

We recognise our students' achievements every step of the way and ensure we celebrate their success.

We provide a wealth of leadership opportunities for our students to participate in including the Prefect Team, Key Stage 3 Ambassadors, Digital Leaders and Peer Mentors. We recognise our students' commitment to

the school through our recently created 'SB Award' that is endorsed by Pinsent Masons.

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.



*“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, Pinsent Masons)*

# Aim High

Students who come to Sarah Bonnell work hard and achieve excellence. Our former students have secured places at the top universities and schools in the world, such as The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge University and Cheltenham Ladies College


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 opportunity to visit places such as Google, KPMG and Barclays.

The Business Action Group is one strand of our Futures @ Sarah Bonnell programme, which ensures that every student has access to at least 100 hours of careers education, information, advice and guidance. The programme also blends motivational talks and workshops with engaging and insightful visits to universities and work places to ensure all students are supported as they navigate through their career journey. As part of the programme all students will attend a one week work experience placement – most recently these have included The Met Police, identifying crime and prevention strategies across the borough; The House of Commons, shadowing the work of an MP and Rolls Royce, analysing the engineering behind the motorcar. Following the placement at Rolls Royce, one of our students has been offered a higher level apprenticeship in engineering when she completes her studies – a fantastic opportunity in a highly competitive sector!

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 well attended Year Group Parents Evenings and parent meetings that take place during the course of the year.



Students at Sarah Bonnell achieve very well in examinations – in 2017 we won a national award for being in the top 5% of schools nationally with a Progress 8 score of +0.74 and our best ever GCSE results with students achieving above National and Newham averages in many subjects. We have strong links with Sixth Form colleges and students from Sarah Bonnell go on to secure places at top Universities.



“Careers advice and guidance for pupils is robust. Pupils who have SEN and/or disabilities are now making much better progress”

February 2018

  
Ofsted



“Work hard and never give up”

*Year 11 student*

# Work Hard

“The strengths of teaching and learning that contribute to pupils’ excellent outcomes. The 2017 GCSE results show that pupils, including disadvantaged pupils, had made excellent progress; as a result, their attainment was high across a range of subjects”.

Ofsted

February 2018

**At Sarah Bonnell School we provide students with a curriculum that stimulates curiosity and is relevant and appropriate so that they can ‘Be Proud. Aim High. Work Hard. Be Kind. Have No Excuses’. Lessons, clubs, trips and visits are planned and delivered in a way that is closely matched to different learning needs and interests so that students can make the best possible progress and enjoy learning.**

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 residential. We have strong links with schools in 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.

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 Bow Arts. This gives students an

experience not only to motivate them within the Expressive Arts curriculum areas but in the wider life of the school.

Sarah Bonnell School Choir recently performed at Westminster Hall for the Vote 100 event, guests included Prime Minister, Teresa May as well as many other inspirational women.

At Sarah Bonnell we promote STEM to girls and ensure they get the best experience and knowledge possible. Our students are involved in rocket car races with the Royal Army, they compete in aviation competitions locally, as well as many other events throughout the year. We actively encourage our students to seek new opportunities in the world of STEM. We have STEM ambassadors comprising of students and staff across the school which help promote STEM and run engaging activities for our students.

Digital leaders are a team of passionate girls leading on digital awareness across school. Our Digital leaders run whole school events to help raise awareness of online safety. We work closely with parents to ensure they are updated on the latest news for online safety. Our dedicated team of digital leaders are well known in and out of school – we have been recognised and praised by Childnet, Facebook and the NSPCC on our work with students in 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.

# Be Kind

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 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. Our Learning Hub is our innovative learning environment for students which is equipped with an ICT suite, a conference room and multiple study areas.

Respect for ourselves, each other and our surroundings is at the heart of our ethos this is encompassed in the Head Girl's vision 'One Team, One Vision, One Voice'.



A photograph of two young women in school uniforms. The woman on the right is smiling broadly and looking towards the woman on the left. The woman on the left is seen in profile, wearing glasses and looking back at her. They are both wearing dark blue blazers over white collared shirts and dark blue V-neck sweaters. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with warm tones.

**“Be Kind means we are kind to  
each other, treating everyone  
equally with respect”**

*Year 11 student*

# No Excuses

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

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

**“The school has an exceptional range of support strategies for the personal development and welfare of all pupils.”**

February 2018

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

There is a strong structure of pastoral 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.



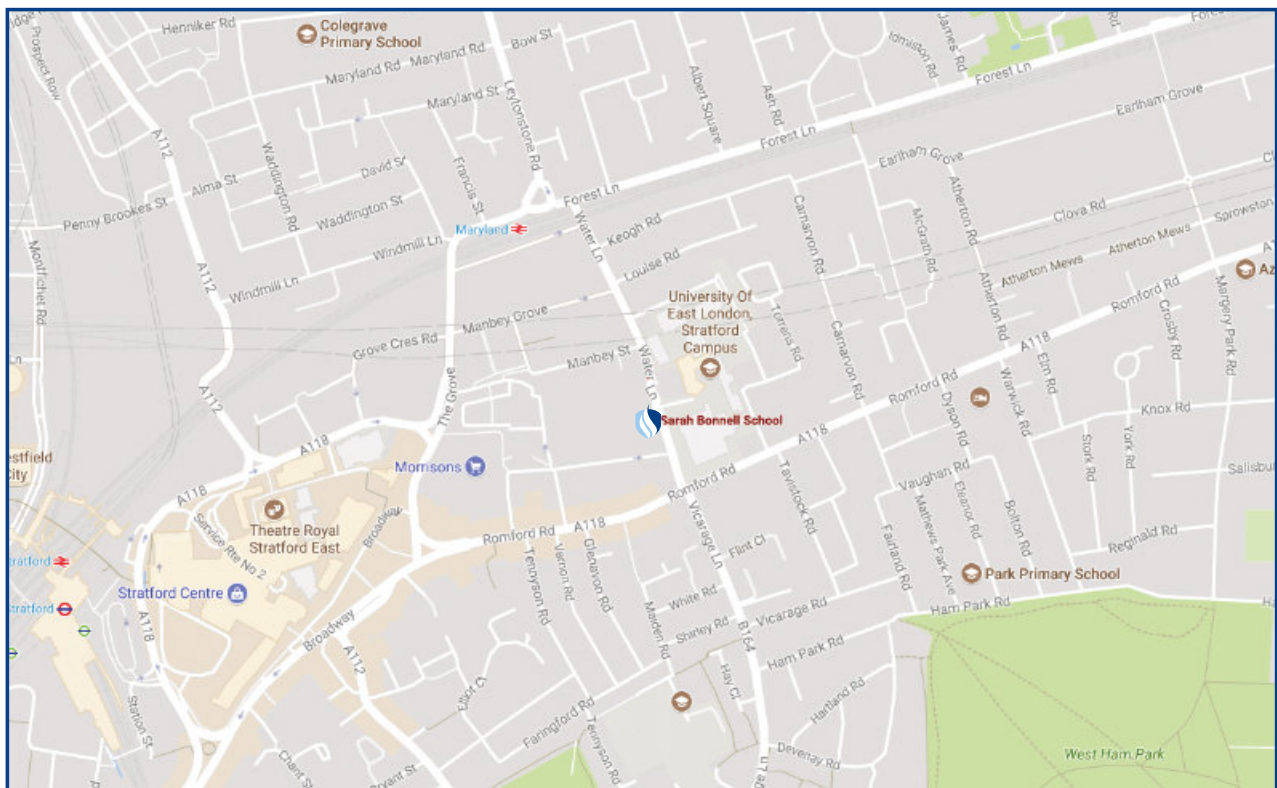
**“Look for solutions  
not excuses”**

*Year 11 student*





# SARAH BONNELL SCHOOL



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