



WELCOME

Who is the Parent Council

A very warm welcome to any new S1 parents for 2025-2026 and any existing parents of Berwickshire High School to the Parent Council newsletter “Connect”.

Introducing your Office Bearers:

Ray Georgeson: Chair chair@bhspc.co.uk

Sally Kitchen: Vice-Chair vicechair@bhspc.co.uk

Marianne Hodge: Treasurer treasurer@bhspc.co.uk

Victoria Tait: Secretary secretary@bhspc.co.uk

Parent Councils have an important role to play in school improvement by ensuring that the parental perspective is represented and considered. The Parent Council helps to create an environment where all parents know that their views matter, and where they feel confident and comfortable putting them forward. They work on behalf of all parents to discuss educational matters that are of importance to all.

HOT TOPICS

On the agenda

Mental Health provision in schools

Through SBC schools chairs group, we hope to widen the conversation to bring parents in on what they can do re: their child's mental health, provide more training for teachers, not to burden but to add to already existing mental health toolkits available.

Borders Greenway (access path)

This is an initiative to open the old railway up as a cycle track. Scoping work is happening now. One of the conditions of SBC funding is the need to engage with schools. Colin Gracey will keep BHS abreast of developments.

Dyslexia Support in Schools

The school has submitted an action plan and is currently putting together evidence to submit to the British Dyslexia Association to become the first school in Scotland to be awarded the DBA Quality Mark.



WHY VOLUNTEER WITH BHS PARENT COUNCIL

Volunteering can provide you with a sense of purpose and connection

Assess what your values are and where your interests lie. You can find opportunities within the parent council that resonate with you and your ethos - something personal, something professional, or something where you want to make a difference. Start small and don't be tempted to volunteer and say yes to everything. Meetings happen monthly with none over the summer holidays so a maximum of 10 meetings a year.

We appreciate everyone is busy with life commitments, so we aim to encourage every parent of every child at BHS to attend just one parent council meeting a year. Please join us in making this a reality.



If you are considering volunteering, **go for it!**

Volunteering is a remarkable way to make a meaningful impact on others while enriching and giving purpose to your own life. It allows you to get to know other parents, contribute to your child educational journey, learn new skills, connect with like-minded people, and gain a profound sense of fulfilment. Whether it's helping at music and sport events, supporting a school initiative or offering your expertise in a professional capacity, the experience often gives back more than you can ever expect.

Berwickshire High School - 200 Club Join the 200 Club, raise funds for the school, and maybe even win some cash for yourself!
Our social lottery is to raise funds to meet requests from the school, providing equipment, resources and opportunities for students. Only £2 per month with a draw carried out every month, and a bonus prize in December.
E-mail: Berwickshirehs200club@gmail.com to join or ask at the school office

Scan this code





Berwickshire High School Parent Council

Here is an insight into how the BHS PC contribute to the school

<u>What We raised</u>	<u>How it was spent</u>
200 Club	£70 LfS Banners
£70 Refreshment stalls	£250 Spanish trip
£120 Meeting of Minds	School and sports trips
£180 Xmas stalls	Voucher for Spanish Exchange
£250 John Greenwell	trip pool party
£370 Xmas Tombola	£600 BDA Quality Assurance
£500 Tesco grant	mark assessment
£500 SBC funds	£220 teaching aids/software for
£575 Xmas raffle	Enhanced Provision
£1,000 from Blackhill Windfarm	£196 refreshments at both Music
Community Fund towards	department senior and
literacy events	school-wide shows
£1,900 grant from Preston and	£136 Music Dept
Abbey Community Trust towards	Engraved trophies for sports day
literacy events	End of term ice cream van
	Awards Ceremony prizes
	House prizes
	School hardship fund
	Departmental books
	£700 library books
	First aid training for teachers to
	lead Duke of Edinburgh
	expeditions

“My time as Parent Council chair has been an uplifting and positive experience and a pleasure to be part of the school’s transformation journey. The school is an entirely different place to where it was four years ago, and the Parent Council is a positive engagement forum which helps to take the school forward.” Neil Bennett, Former Chair

FUNDRAISING REQUESTS

World Book Day and School Sports

In March, we contributed £200 towards the school's world book day initiatives. A fabulous day was had by all involved.

The school library is always grateful to receive donations of books and have set up an **[Amazon Wishlist](#)** should you wish to contribute to this initiative directly.

Guidelines for donating [Berwickshire High School - BHS Library Amazon Wishlist](#)

Thank you for supporting our library and improving the choices for our students!

We received funding requests from Schools Rugby DO and Hockey PE teacher for their 7s tournaments held Saturday 22nd March and Friday 28th March, respectively.

The BHSPC contributed cups, tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate, juice etc. and then also donated a float of £200 to the PE department to spend, build profit and retain for any further events. Lots of students, parents and teachers impressed us with their baking skills presenting flapjack, chocolate brownies, cinnamon buns, cookies and traybakes galore.

We are delighted to say that the Rugby made a profit of £314.71 and Hockey a profit of £129.06, which will go towards much needed equipment, bibs and first aid consumables for both their sports.

We are thrilled to celebrate **Berwickshire High School Sports Awards Night 2025** on 10th June, an event very kindly sponsored by **[Labeyrie Fine Foods UK](#)**



Next meetings

24th June and 28th Aug, 6pm - join us online on Teams or in person, with tea, coffee and biscuits in the executive conference room. If you have any items you wish to bring to the agenda then please email chair@bhspc.co.uk by Monday 16th June. We look forward to seeing existing and new parents at the meeting to help shape the future of the Parent Council. Previous minutes: **[Berwickshire High School - Minutes](#)**