



Welcome

Welcome to Hawking

My name is **Mr Freeman**, and I am Head of **Hawking House**. My role, along with **Mrs Nelder**, Assistant Head of House and your tutor who you will see twice each day, is to support your academic and personal progress during your time at school. I am delighted to welcome you to **Hawking House** where I am sure you will thrive over the next 7 years.



What does being in Hawking House mean?

Hawking House will become your extended family at school, a support network that will be with you throughout your time at Bournside. Our house system fosters a sense of belonging, camaraderie, and healthy competition within the school community.

You will have opportunities to earn points for your house through various activities, such as sports competitions, academic achievements, and for wider contributions to the community. These friendly competitions not only promote teamwork and school spirit but also allow you to showcase your talents and contribute to the collective success of your house.

Hawking House, represented by the colour blue, is a smaller community within the larger school based in H Block (Geography and History). House Captains act as student mentors, and our vertical tutor group system allows you to forge strong relationships with students across different year groups. It also means that you can benefit from the support and guidance of older students as you navigate your first year at Bournside.

Our house

Hawking House, named after the renowned physicist Stephen Hawking, stands as a beacon of intellectual curiosity and scientific exploration. Just as Hawking's brilliant mind defied the limitations of his body, so too does this house inspire its members to surpass their own boundaries.

With a commitment to pushing the boundaries of knowledge and embracing the wonders of the universe, **Hawking House** fosters a community of inquisitive learners, constantly seeking to unravel the mysteries of the cosmos.

In this house, we honor Stephen Hawking's extraordinary legacy by nurturing a generation of fearless thinkers who dare to question, imagine, and change the world.



Our House icon

As a new member of **Hawking House**, you will be part of an exceptional group of students who aim to do the best they possibly can at school. Our House icon is Stephen Hawking, one of the most famous scientists of all time. He showed immense determination when he was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) aged 21 and given just two years to live. Despite this, Hawking lived for another 55 years until he was 76, making some of the most important discoveries in human history and raising a family along the way.

Transition Week

We will meet for the first time during Transition Week (Monday 30th June - Friday 4th July), where you will spend five days getting to know us and the school site, meeting your tutor group, taster lessons, a Clubs Fair, a sports afternoon and a 'Concert in a Day'. There will also be plenty of opportunities to ask any questions about school life and how the school operates. More details are available on our [Transition webpage](#).

Essential skills

Whilst you await the arrival of September this summer, do keep up some essential skills so that you can start the school year with confidence. Reading is an important part of the learning process and we will be really interested to hear about the books you have been enjoying. It is also a good idea to take part in some sport or exercise so that you are ready for PE when you start. Keep up your passion too, whether it be playing an instrument, singing, drawing, computer programming, chess or designing and creating! We also recommend practicing how to tie a tie!

I look forward to welcoming you officially in September and presenting you with your **Hawking House** tie on your first day, which I am sure you will wear with pride.

Mr Freeman

Head of Hawking House

"Look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see, and wonder about what makes the universe exist. Be curious."

Stephen Hawking



Inspiring lives through learning

We are: Ambitious, Curious, Proud, Purposeful, Respectful and Supportive