



Parent Welcome Evening

Harris Academy Benfleet



Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance is very important here at Harris Academy Benfleet. Excellent attendance ensures your child has every opportunity to reach their potential and achieve success.

Students with 100% attendance are entered into a weekly prize draw for a Golden Ticket, to jump the queue at break and lunch. Students with 100% attendance each term are given a special attendance award.

Being organised and on time for school is an important life skill. Students that arrive late to school will be given an after school detention. If there is an unforeseen circumstance which means that your child is late to school, we ask that you contact the school to make us aware.





Enrichment Opportunities

- Our vibrant extra-curricular programme offers a wealth of opportunities before school, at lunchtime and after school each day.
- In September all Year 7 students will attend an Enrichment Fair where they can sign up for a range of clubs, whether academic, creative or sporting
- We have already organised a team building trip for Year 7 in September to Mersea!





Home Learning

Student planners will be shared with students on their first day in September. Year 7 students are encouraged to write their home learning tasks in their school planners, as well as check Satchel: One.

Saatchel One is an online platform that staff use to set home learning tasks on. This allows you and your child to login and see what homework has been set. Both students and parents will be provided with login details in September.

We have a Home Learning Club as well where students can complete any activities set after school. This runs in the Resource Centre every Monday and Thursday from 3pm to 3.30pm.





Teaching and Learning



GREAT LEARNING. EVERY LESSON.

A GRADUAL RELEASE MODEL THAT REDUCES COGNITIVE LOAD

I teach → **We check** → **You practise**

WHY THIS WORKS
It manages cognitive load by breaking learning into clear steps so students can focus, understand and succeed.

I TEACH

I show you how



- I explain clearly
- I think aloud
- You watch and learn
- Check for engagement

LOW COGNITIVE LOAD
I make it clear and simple.

WE CHECK

We do it together



- We try together
- I ask questions
- I guide and support
- We check understanding

MEDIUM COGNITIVE LOAD
I support your thinking.

YOU PRACTISE

You do it independently



- You apply what you know
- I circulate and support
- Feedback improves learning
- You build confidence

MANAGEABLE COGNITIVE LOAD
You build fluency and skills.

HOW THIS REDUCES COGNITIVE LOAD



- I TEACH**
You don't have to work out what to do yet. You focus on understanding.
- WE CHECK**
You think with support. Mistakes are caught, understanding gets stronger.
- YOU PRACTISE**
You apply what you know. Practice builds skill and confidence.

We don't ask you to do it alone until you're ready.
First we teach. Then we check. Then you succeed.

KEY REMINDERS FOR EVERY LESSON

- Start with purpose**
Use a Do Now – retrieval based.
- Everyone participates**
Use Cold Call – no hands up.
- No opt out**
Every student responds. Support, then return.

- Check understanding**
Prove it – don't assume it.
- Strong voice, clear explanations**
Calm, direct, minimal over-talking.



Harris Academy

Benfleet

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

EVERY LESSON

EVERY STUDENT



Awards

We have a number of different awards in school, ranging from achievement points and subject badges, to reward trips and vouchers. At the end of each term we also have an awards assembly where subjects nominate students for different awards.

- **Achievement points-** Awarded each lesson for excellent behaviour, attainment and effort.
- **Book tokens-** awarded when you reach a certain amount of achievement points
- **Bronze Head teacher award-** Awarded for behaviour, attendance and contributions to the community criteria.
- **Subject badges-** Issued for consistent exemplary work and commitment to the subject. Students have to collect stamps using a loyalty card over a 10 week period





Leadership

At The Appleton School, we are proud of our Student Leadership Team, who undertake various leadership roles within our Appleton Community. There are 29 different roles that pupils can apply for, and over 400 positions available across the whole school.

Here are few examples of Student Leadership roles your child can join in Year 7:

- **Form House Captain**
- **Student Council Member**
- **Well-being Leader**
- **Diversity Leader**
- **MFL Leader**
- **Recycling Leader**
- **Peer Mentor**



We also have a student leadership conference that our students in these roles are invited to.



School Uniform

We are working towards uniform availability from the second week of July. The uniform is live on the Khalsa Schoolwear website already though if you wish to view and pre-order.

Khalsa Schoolwear offers multiple ways to purchase uniform:

- Retail store: (Unit 1 Cromwell Centre Selinas Lane Dagenham RM8 1QH)
- Online store: (<https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/school/harris-academy-benfleet/>).Free
- On-site pop-up events at the academy. **For Year 7 this has been scheduled for Wednesday 29th July.** Professional staff from Khalsa Schoolwear will measure students and advise on appropriate sizing.

5% off everything at the pop-up shop event!



Pop Up Event- Wednesday 29th July

10am-11am: Surnames A-G

11am-12pm: Surname H-M

12pm-1pm: Surname N-S

1pm-2pm: Surname T- Z

2pm- 3pm: All year groups

Further information will be emailed home to you about our Pop Up Event tomorrow.



School Uniform

- Harris Academy Benfleet Maroon blazer with silver grey trim. *
- Shirts or blouses must be a plain white standard school shirt and have a collar that can be buttoned to the top. These may be long or short-sleeved.
- Shirts must be tucked into the waistband of their trousers.
- Black and silver double striped tie, fastened over the top shirt button. *
- Maroon V-neck pullover jumper with silver/ grey trim **(optional)** *
- Plain black formal trousers, tailored in style, and long enough to cover the top of the shoe. Jeans, leggings, jeggings, harem-pants, combat trousers, those with large buckles, very skinny or very wide styles are not permitted.

*Denotes items only available from Khalsa Schoolwear



School Uniform

KHALSA
SCHOOLWEAR

Boys maroon blazer with silver grey trim
COMPULSORY



Girls maroon blazer with silver grey trim
COMPULSORY



Maroon V-neck pullover with silver grey trim
OPTIONAL



White blouse



White shirt



Tie
Black & silver
double stripe



Boys black trousers



Girls black trousers



Figure 1

Maroon blazer with silver grey trim. Black trousers worn with maroon V-neck pullover with silver grey trim. White shirt and striped tie.

Figure 2

Maroon blazer with silver grey trim. Black trousers worn with maroon V-neck pullover with silver grey trim. White blouse and striped tie.

All students are expected to wear trousers.

Please note students can wear short or long-sleeved shirts

School branded /ogod items can be purchased from Khalsa Schoolwear only. Unbranded items can be purchased from Khalsa Schoolwear or another retailer.



PE Kit

All students:

- Harris Academy Benfleet maroon sports t-shirt *
- Plain black leggings or plain black sports tracksuit bottoms or plain black sport shorts. ***Please note that cropped, stretchy cycle style shorts or branded items are not permitted.***
- Plain colour swimming trunks or plain colour one-piece swimming costume and goggles
- Trainers

Boys:

- Plain black knee length Football socks
- Football boots
- Shin pads
- Gum Shield (required for rugby)

Optional

- Rain Jacket
- Towel for shower use
- Plain black quarter zip*



Figure 1
Maroon sports T-shirt
worn with black leggings.

Figure 2
Maroon sports T-shirt
worn with black shorts.

***Denotes items only available from Khalsa Schoolwear**



School Shoes



School Shoes – Formal practical black leather (or faux leather alternative) shoes which must have a heel and black laces (where appropriate). Shoes with visible brands or emblems or logos are not permitted. **Canvas shoes, flat sole shoes, trainers, high heels or boots of any kind are not permitted.**





School Shoes





School Shoes



Completely flat sole with no heel



Soles have ridges and are not completely flat

Iris ParentMail

At Appleton we operate a cashless catering system.

Students will have their biometric finger imaging completed on their first day in September (with your consent)

We are a cashless school and therefore the canteen does not take cash.

You can top up accounts **online** via Iris ParentMail

Any allergies/ illnesses will be logged on the accounts so staff are aware of foods students need to avoid.

You will have received an email with your Iris ParentMail login which you can use to register your account. We can re-send this to you if needed but we would recommend checking your junk folder.



Instrumental Lessons

We are pleased to offer small group/ 1-to-1 instrumental lessons at Harris Academy Benfleet, provided by Essex Music Service.

To book your child Music lessons, there is a link you need to follow on the letter that will be emailed to you tomorrow.

To add your child to the waiting list please register on our system by **29th July 2026**

Further information will be emailed home to you about our instrumental lessons tomorrow





Year 7 Teambuilding Trip

We are holding a one day teambuilding event for our new Year 7 students on the 28th September and 29th September 2025 at Essex Outdoors, Mersea Island, Essex. We will be taking half of the year group on each day and we will confirm which day your child will be going nearer the time.

- The cost of the trip is £52.00 which includes transport and all activities.
 - If you would like your child to take part you can make a payment via your Iris Parentmail account and you will also need to complete the online parental consent form which was shared with you. The deadline for this is the 6th July.
 - If your child is in receipt of **Free School Meals**, the school may be able to obtain funding for the cost of the trip. Please indicate on the parental consent form if your child is and ensure you have applied to our Free School Meal application form on our website.
 - Normal lessons will take place in school for any students who do not choose to take part in the trip.
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Welcome Days

- These are taking place on the **23rd and 24th June, 8.45am- 3.15 pm**. We request students arrive for 8.45am, enter through main reception where they will then be directed to the hall to sit in their tutor groups, prior to the day starting.
 - During the course of the welcome days, students will have the opportunity to meet their tutor, experience Year 7 curriculum 'taster lessons' and follow a treasure hunt to help them learn their way around the school
 - Both days students need to bring a pencil case, packed lunch and extra drinks/ sun tan lotion if the weather is warm.
 - Typically, students travel directly to and from home and are not usually expected to report to their primary schools in the morning.
 - **Due to warm weather, students on both days are to wear their primary school pe kits.**
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Summer Sports Camp

We are delighted to announce that we will be offering a Sports Camp in the summer holidays for our new Year 7 cohort. This will be an ideal opportunity for students to make new friends, familiarise themselves with the school site as well as enjoy some practical activities.

The camp will run for 2 days and take place on:

Monday 27th July (10am – 3pm)

Tuesday 28th July (10am- 3pm)

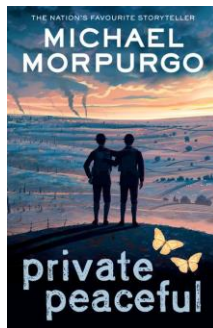
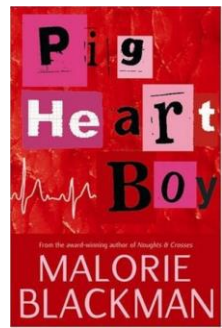
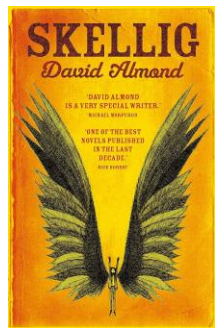
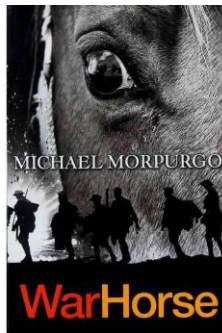
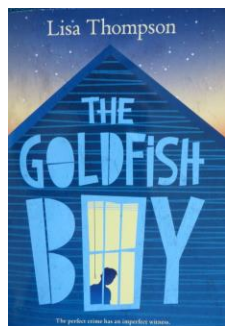
Activities will include; **Athletics, Striking + Fielding, Invasion Games, Net Games and Team Building activities.**

The cost is £15 per day. We have 80 places available each day, which are first come first serve. Please pay on parentmail to secure your place. You can sign up to both days, or just the one. If your child has free school meals, please contact finance@theappletonschool.org so they can book your place for you.

Further information will be emailed home to you about our Sports Camp tomorrow.



Summer Reading Challenge



During our Welcome Days students will be given a Summer Challenge to complete over the holiday period. This includes lots of activities to encourage a love of reading and to develop literacy skills.

As part of the Summer challenge, each student will be given their own reading book to take home and enjoy as well.



Question Time





Medical/ SEND queries

Any parents who wish to speak to the school Nurse or Curriculum Support, a prefect will now take you to the canteen.

Thank you for attending our Parent Welcome Evening.
