

July 2026

Dear Parent/ Carers,

Staff at Harris Academy Benfleet really enjoyed meeting all our new Year 7 students during their two induction days in June. We hope students found the two days just as enjoyable.

September Arrangements

I am pleased to confirm that Year 7 will start with us on **Monday 7th September**. The school day will run from **10.30am – 3.15pm**. We request students arrive at the front entrance for 10.30am. Here they will be directed to the hall for their assembly. Students will need to sit in their tutor groups and they will be met by their tutors there.

Students on this day will be the only year group in, other than our Sixth Form, to ensure they have time to settle in. Please note we do expect students to be in full school uniform on Monday 7th September and every day after.

Students on Monday will need to bring a pack lunch with them. Students will not be able to purchase food from the canteen until Tuesday 8th September. Please be assured we will provide food for any students who have free school meals. A reminder, we operate a cashless catering system and payments for school meals can be made via your Iris ParentMail account, ready for Tuesday 8th September.

During the day, students will be involved in a number of activities, outlined below:

- **A tour of the school**
- **A practice fire drill**
- **Tutor activities**- Students will need a reading book here.
- **An Enrichment Fair**- This is where students can sign up to a range of different clubs and activities offered before school, at lunch and after school.
- **Biometric finger imaging**- Students will have their biometric finger imaging completed, so they can use their fingerprint to purchase food from the canteen on Tuesday 8th September onwards. Please note this will only be for students we have received parental permission for.
- **Reading test**- This is a computer-based test that all students complete. It will help us support students with their reading from September and inform teaching across the curriculum.

The school day will finish at 3.15pm. We encourage parents not to park outside the school, along Croft road but to arrange to pick up their child somewhere nearby to help ease congestion. Alternatively, students can walk home or travel on public transport.

Headteacher: Sarah Cox, BA (Hons)

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On Tuesday 8th September and every day after, the school day will start at 8.30am and finish at 3.15pm.

Uniform Pop Up Shop Event

Please find attached again the flyer from Khalsa Schoolwear, covering information about their Pop-Up Shop Event on Wednesday 29th July at Harris Academy Benfleet. Different timings have been allocated, depending on your child's surname. There is an additional day on Thursday 13th August which has been organised for any parents unable to attend on the 29th July. This additional event will run from 11am-3pm and you are able to attend at any time. Please be aware this will be open to all year groups.

Summer Holidays road and gas works London Road / Croft Road

We have been contacted by the gas works company Cadent to make us aware of the gas and road works scheduled during the summer holidays that will impact in the local area in the immediate vicinity of the school site.

The works are already underway, with road closures currently set to commence from 25th July 2026. We have been informed that these works and lane/road closures will continue up until the end of August. Full details, including details of lane and road closures, can be found via the QR code on the attached poster from Cadent.

The school has been reassured by Cadent that all visitors will still be able to access the school via the High Road end and will be able to park in Gate B for the Uniform Pop Up Shop events (situated to the right-hand side of the school site, swimming pool side). The New Park Road end of the road will be closed. **There will be a sign at the entrance to Croft Road from the High Road which will be 'Access Only'. This includes access for all families to the school grounds.** We will continue to update you if any further information becomes available.

Please do let us know if you have any questions in regards to September and we look forward to welcoming your child in the new academic year.

Yours sincerely,



Miss B Cooper
Assistant Headteacher