

April 2026

Dear Parent/ Carer,

As lead for KS2-3 transition, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and update you on our induction programme for 2026.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our new Year 7 students to the Harris Academy Benfleet and we will be here every step of the way to guide you through this process. My role is to ensure the move from primary to secondary school is as seamless as possible, supporting students and families through this important transition period.

We are currently working with our feeder primary schools, collating all the necessary information to ensure we have a thorough understanding of all our new students. This allows us to get to know our new Year 7 cohort very quickly, as individuals as well as a year group as a whole.

We appreciate students will be feeling a range of different emotions towards starting secondary school; excitement, eagerness and some nervousness. Please be assured throughout our induction programme, we will be able to answer any questions you or your child may have and we will be able to offer extensive help and advice to allay any worries about starting secondary school. We have a number of different events to ensure an effective and successful transition for all our new starters:

Welcome Evening for Parents: Thursday 18th June

Here we will share some key information with parents, in preparation for September. You will also have the opportunity to meet your child's tutor, who will be able to answer any questions you may have. The timings for the evening will differ, as there will be sessions running between 5.30pm and 8pm. Sessions will be for 1 hour and we will update you nearer the time with which session you have been allocated. Please be assured our School Nurse and SENCO will be on hand during the welcome evening to discuss individual transition arrangements if your child has a Medical Care Plan or an Education, Health and Care Plan.

Welcome Days for Students: Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June

During these two days, students will meet their tutor and others in their tutor group. They will experience taster lessons in their Year 7 curriculum and follow a treasure hunt to help them learn their way around the school site. These are always really enjoyable days and help students to settle in and make new friends, as well as familiarise themselves with the school and different subject areas.

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Data Collection Forms:

In preparation for September, we ask that you please complete our data collection form by Friday 8th May. Please follow the link below to access this. [Student Data Collection Form September 2026 – Fill out form](#)

School Uniform and PE Kit:

We are pleased to confirm that Khalsa Schoolwear has been appointed as the official uniform supplier for the Harris Academy Benfleet. Alongside this letter I have shared with you our new school logo, as well as our uniform boards, colourways, and branded items for your reference.

When will uniform be available for collection and online orders?

We are working towards uniform availability from the second week of July. Please note this may be subject to change due to global supply chain pressures. Any changes will be communicated promptly, and contingency plans will be in place to ensure students have their uniform for September.

Where is the supplier located, and how can I purchase uniform?

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/> academy webstore link will be provided when available)
- On-site pop-up events at the academy: (Dates to follow)

Will financial support be available for families who need it?

Where families are experiencing hardship, academies can provide guidance and support on a case-by-case basis. Parents should contact the academy directly.

Can parents still purchase generic items from supermarkets?

Yes - items such as shirts, trousers, black PE socks and PE shorts/ PE leggings may be purchased from any retailer, provided they meet the academy's uniform standards.

I hope this letter has been a useful update for you and please be assured I will be updating you with further information about our school uniform in the coming weeks. We will soon be sharing with you an induction booklet as well which outlines the Year 7 Curriculum for next year and other information key to starting The Appleton School.

If you do need to contact us with any immediate queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch at info@theappletonschool.org

Yours sincerely



Miss B Cooper
Assistant Headteacher
Lead KS2 – KS3 Transition