

8TH JULY 2022

NEWSLETTER

Harrow High School

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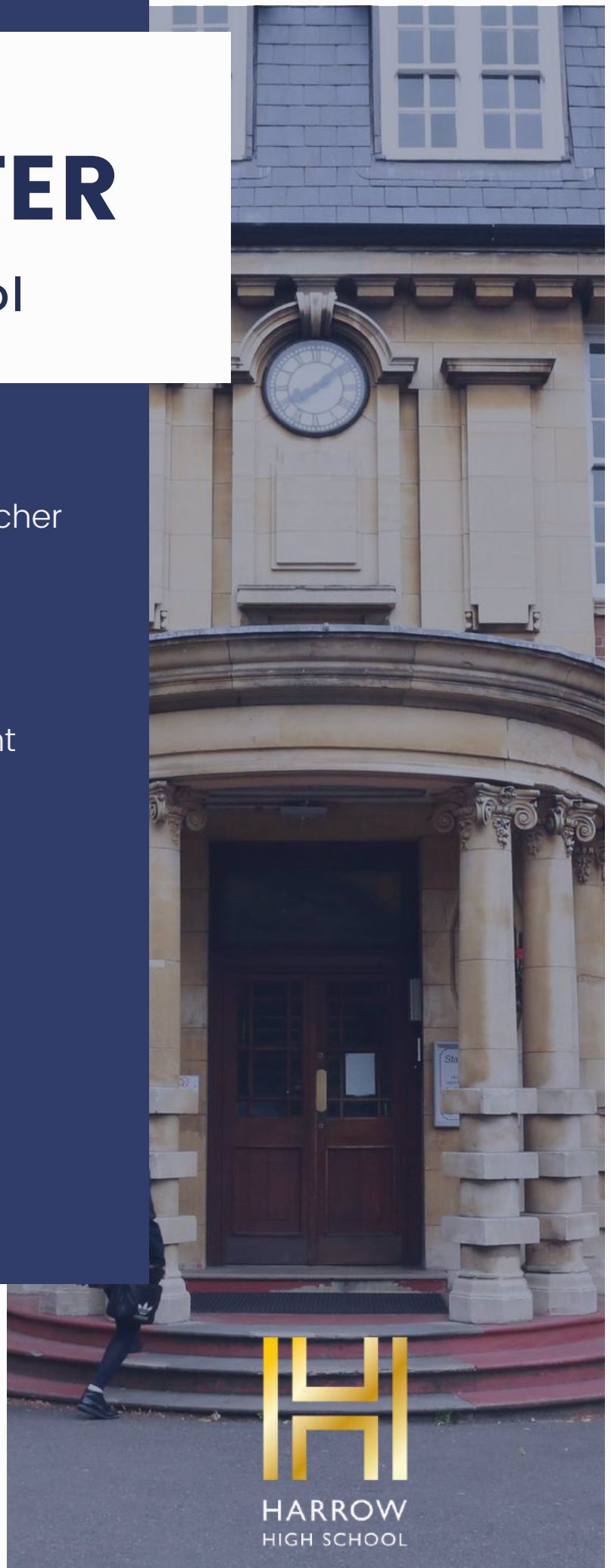
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DATES FOR THE DIARY:

15 July 2022	Sports Day
20 July 2022	End of term (half day)
5 September 2022	Autumn Term begins



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A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



The last few weeks have, quite rightly, centered around public examinations – GCSEs and A levels – the first series to run in two years and the longest GCSE examination series ever. A lot of effort has gone into supporting our learners through this and I would like to acknowledge all the dedicated teachers, staff as well as parents/carers who have worked so hard to ensure all of our learners have been in exams and ready to do their best every time.

I feel it is important to give you a small flavour of just how much academic work has been taking place to prepare your children for these exams: there have been summer schools and intensive courses, catch up tutoring classes, as well as booster lessons on Saturdays and during half-term holidays. Over the past three academic years, your children and so many dedicated staff have worked incredibly hard through the disruption caused by COVID. Although, we cannot forecast how these results will be – given so much uncertainty still around grade boundaries and national norms – I do know that almost all learners have given it their all. We are looking forward to August and sharing the excitement on results day.

Staying with Year 11s and Year 13s, last week they celebrated their graduation with their parents, carers and families. This was the first time in three years we were able to hold these events in person and it was a wonderful privilege to have so many there. Graduation ceremonies were followed by proms and there are many photographs of these events in this newsletter. To all those in Year 11s who will be returning to our Sixth Form – we cannot wait to see you. To Year 13s, who are off to apprenticeships and University – we are proud of your journey with us. And to all those who are leaving for new pastures – we wish you all the best.

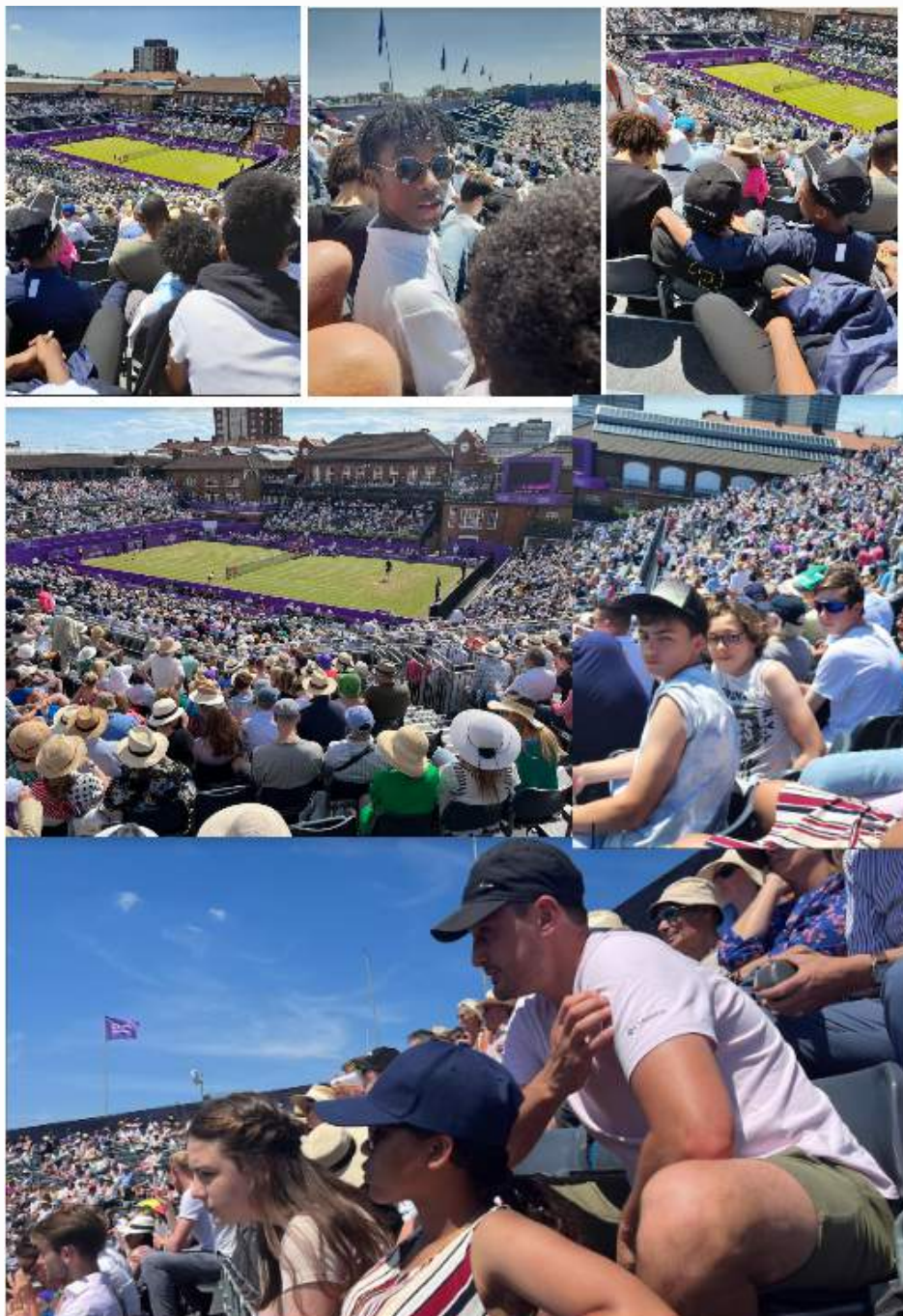
This week we also congratulated our Year 9s on their progression into Key Stage 4, more of which we will share with you in our next newsletter.

Paul Gamble
Headteacher

SCHOOL NEWS

QUEENS TENNIS TRIP

On Wednesday 15th June we took a group of learners to Queens Tennis Championship with tickets kindly donated by Deloitte. It was a beautiful day and they saw some brilliant tennis at centre court, watching some of the best players in the world go head to head. It was a memorable experience for all learners involved.



BOROUGH ATHLETICS

We recently hosted the annual Borough Athletics competitions for the best boys and girls athletes in Harrow. The competitions consisted of three boys' competitions and three girls' competitions. Every school in the HCA attended, in total 13 schools brought a team of Year 7's, 8's, 9's and 10's.

Athletics Results after the three competitions (Harrow High School did extremely well).

Year 7 Girls 1st

Year 8 Girls came 3rd

Year 9 Girls 1st

Year 10 Girls put in some outstanding performances finishing 4th

Year 7 Boys came 5th

Year 8 Boys 1st

Year 9 Boys 1st

This was the first tournament we have been able to plan for three years due to Covid regulations. Participation rates for girls and boys were amazing. Well done to all!

PARTNERSHIP GROUP GRADUATES

All learners in the Partnership Group (Y7/8 Bristol) continue to work very hard on developing their receptive and productive English skills, as well as, learning key aspects of Science, Drama, PE, Spanish, IT, Maths and Life in the UK. Four learners have done extremely well in their Summer 1 tests across all subjects. They are: Soraya Y8, Nabhya Y7, and Tommy Y7. In addition to their excellent learning and progress, they demonstrated outstanding attitude to work, teachers and their peers. We are very happy for their success and wish them good luck!



KS4 PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT – MR CORNER

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Year 11 cohort, who have been exceptional throughout the exam series. Attendance at exams has been the best we have seen and teachers are feeding back positive comments in regards to attitudes in booster lessons and while lining up for exams. Can I finish by saying what a pleasure it has been to work with such a year group and I look forward to seeing many delighted faces on results day, Thursday 25th August.

I would also like to wish the Year 10 cohort luck in their end of year PPEs (mocks) which commenced this week. This is an excellent opportunity to identify where this cohort is and what areas of development we need to address come September. We will be replicating the exams they will face in Year 11 so they can get used to the expectations. The examination timetable is available on the website at <https://www.harrowhigh.com/school-life/exam-information>

INTERVIEW WITH PAUL MERSON

This month, Eyaad (Year 7) was chosen to interview Arsenal legend Paul Merson at box park in Wembley. It was a fantastic experience and we are very proud of his accomplishments. Here's what Eyaad had to say about his experience:

Monday 13th June was quite a night for me! Meeting Paul Merson on stage in Boxpark Wembley and having the amazing opportunity to interview him, what more could you ask for? I was really excited when Otis told me about the interview and I went home and researched him straight away and what a career he had! The night of the meet was the best because I was the most nervous then. I spoke to Dickie Davis, Sky Sports news reporter, and I prepared to go on that stage. The moment I held that microphone, I took a deep breath and thought about all my preparation.

My mind went blank. I looked down at all my mates from the club and I looked at Otis and then I realised it's not about the preparation, it's about you. We got into a conversation and I asked about his career, his family and also his addictions. As we finished, I walked off the stage and I was proud of myself. My friends congratulated me and I knew I could do more like this. We continued on with the night and played some football which is when Paul Merson gave me a signed shirt, signed book and a signed ball. This was incredible. I wish to continue with the club and be a part of the family .



YEAR 11 GRADUATION & PROM

On the 23rd June, the school celebrated the graduation of Year 11 Class of 2022. We praised their successes and achievements. It was a fantastic event, hosted by Year 11 Head of Years, Ms Barrett and Ms Campbell who made it such a special occasion for the learners. The hall was full of proud parents and teachers. A fantastic occasion for a fantastic year group.

This was followed by the Year 11 Prom on 24 June 2022. This was an amazing finale. All the Staff and Governors wish Year 11 good luck for their future.



YEAR 13 LEAVER'S DINNER

On Friday 24th June we wished a final farewell to our Year 13 learners at their Leaver's Dinner. It was so lovely to see so many of the year group back together to celebrate the end of exams and a fantastic two years filled with success. We truly wish you all the best in the exciting next chapter of your lives!



YEAR 12 MOCK INTERVIEWS

Last week, Year 12s took part in a series of mock university interviews to prepare them for the upcoming UCAS process. The learners looked great in formal attire and did a great job acing their interviews, with many appointable candidates. We loved hearing about their enthusiasm for their post-18 plans and getting to know more about their skills and attributes. Thanks to the Sixth Form team for holding the interviews all day, the learners have expressed their appreciation for the feedback given on how they can enhance their interview skills.



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Following two years of not running work experience, Year 10 learners had the opportunity to carry out a week in a work placement. We were thrilled to hear such positive feedback from employers stating how enthusiastic, punctual and adaptable to their given roles our learners were. We also had some placements mention they would be happy to offer learners summer time jobs! We have enjoyed hearing stories from learners stating how valuable the experience was. Most importantly, it was great to see how well learners represented themselves and Harrow High School at their placements. We truly hope learners have built a stronger skill set which they will be able to add to their CV and utilise in any interviews they may have in the coming years, whether this to colleges or 6th Forms, summer time jobs, or, later on, to enrol at university. We are extremely proud of learners' conduct during this week!

A special congratulations goes out to Oliwier and Dennis. Their placements got in touch to let us know how impressed they all were with their work during the week. The managers on their floors, as well as the partners working with them, had very high praise for both of them. Well done!

YEAR 10 MOCK EXAMS

This week the Year 10 have sat the end of year exams for all their subjects! The week ran identical to the GCSE exams series and we couldn't be any prouder of the year group for their response to them. From Monday to Thursday, learners have embodied the 4 school excellences and the feedback given by members of SLT and external invigilators was amazing!

We have received extremely positive comments on how hard learners worked during exams, how perfect uniform is and how they conducted themselves from being briefed by their teachers until the end of their exams. This makes us really proud!! We are really looking forward to next year's exams and are extremely excited about the outcomes. Please make sure you keep this up for the next few weeks leading up to summer break!

YEAR 10 PARENTS EVENING

Year 10 Parents Evening will be on Tuesday 5th of July. It will be held virtually and details on how to book appointments with teachers have been sent. This is a great opportunity to hear from your child's teachers and understand how they can further progress to achieve the best possible outcomes at the end of the next academic year. If you experience any difficulties in booking any appointments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

INCLUSION DOOR

Young people at the school have been working hard this week to bring to reality the design of the inclusion door. This is to represent the inclusive nature of Harrow High School and was born of the idea that we have an open door policy for young people to come and talk to us about anything which is concerning them. Thank you to all the staff who have taken part in the pride celebrations and in raising awareness of the thoughts and opinions of all people who are connected with and affected by LGBTQIA+ rights. We look forward to sharing the finishes design!



POETRY COMPETITION ENTRY

The following poem was written by a year 7 student from Harrow High School, her name is Muska. Her poem has been selected as one of the top ten in a poetry competition for the borough. In this poem Muska writes about her experience of escaping Afghanistan in the midst of conflict. This poem tracks her journey from Afghanistan to her home in England, Muska is able to express very eloquently and poignantly her shifting and juxtaposing emotions throughout, she varies from fear, relief to guilt.

Miss Hannah , NTP Tutor

Running and rushing

Running and rushing,
To nowhere in particular,
Helpless and depressed,
Trying to escape the claws of the tiger,
Traffic, screaming, screeching,
The city a mess as the news reached the ears of everyone around,
Like wildfire it had spread to all those in the land,
Worry and guilt filling the hearts of the others connected to this land, but outside
their country.
The city a mess, Kabul a mess, Afghanistan a mess.
Everything chaotic and overwhelming,
Cars going in all the wrong directions,
Skidding and dashing to get to somewhere, ANYWHERE.

Fleeing a tragedy isn't all that easy,
It's impossible with guilt stabbing your chest,
And remorse clasp your heart,
Shots fired into the air against a deep, caliginous sky,
Yet I was safe in the embrace of a base of another country, of foreign lands.
Four in the morning, fourth break down, four hours of sleep,
Watching on an illuminated screen,
Streaks of black, crimson and emerald being rolled up and a ghastly white replacing
it.
Scanning around, emotions freely overpowering people.
One's eyes brimming with tears,
One blank and defeated,
One terror-stricken and horrified,
One sympathetic and remorseful.
This was the end, it had reached the end.

Boarding a dull grey plane,
Used for military,
Like a soldier preparing for fight,
Scary wings and front engine,
Crowds boarded the plane, crowds of people, people.
My body, mind, heart were numb, emotionless.
With a hollow heart,
And haunting memories I sat on the floor of the plane, just like those other two
hundred people.
No seats, just straps on the floor.
Not sad, neither scared.
Like a lifeless, heartless creature, not knowing what was to come.

Delay in Dubai, tired and exhausted at this time,
Roaming airports for hours,
Finally, boarding the plane to home, what happiness would I have when my real land
had been left behind?
Separation from the home in my heart in London,
where I so longed to be,
just to curl up and think, sieve through all these feelings and emotions.
A blur those ten days quarantining in Birmingham had been, but hadn't all of this
evacuation been?
fuzzy and misty memories,

The hours and days mingling,
Not until my foot hit the ground of my flat in London, my home, my sanctuary, did I
realize what had happened.
Suddenly,
Tears, and sorrow came to my eyes,
An emotional overflow,
Breaking down, mentally, in to thousands of conflicting emotions,
But it stung,
Stung to be in safety while others weren't.
When the worry of family, and people of the same land is taunting and jeering at
you.
Maybe emoting had been difficult,
But never have I ever fought back a tsunami of tears this huge, or a wreck of trust
and help,
Being helpless and guilty for not dragging the women, the girls, the soldiers, the
people with me to tranquility.
But what can be done, when against you there are weapons known to kill, to murder
an innocent soul?
Could words help the people of Afghanistan?

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School Uniform Requirement for next academic year: Autumn 2022

The summer holidays are an ideal opportunity to make sure your child has the correct uniform for the start of the new academic year in September 2022. To ensure we have the best relationship with learners we expect learners to be ready for lessons wearing the correct uniform so that our efforts can be focussed on teaching and learning. Harrow High School has a uniform policy which indicates clearly which items of clothing are required and what is not permitted. Learners and parents/carers must understand that the school reserves the right to deem items of clothing inappropriate for school wear. If your child's uniform does not meet our expectations, they will be asked to change it to fit our expectations. Uniform must be at school and on the way to and from school and general appearance should be neat and correct.

All uniform can be purchased from Pullens: 48-50 Church Road, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 4AH: 0208 954 3850

Pullens has 'Click and Collect' or a home delivery service. They also inform us that they have a good supply of uniform. Please get uniform in good time for the start of term on Monday 5 September 2022.

SCHOOL UNIFORM REGULATIONS

Please read this carefully as there are some changes.

The white summer polo shirts with Harrow High logo must not be worn during the Autumn and Spring terms – a shirt and tie are required.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL UNIFORM

- Navy blazer with school logo – always to be worn and not put in bags
- White school shirt/blouse with Harrow High School tie
- V-neck navy jumper with the school logo. This does not replace the need to wear a blazer
- Plain smart grey/black trousers. Jeans, cargo pants, leggings or tight school trousers are not acceptable. Trousers must be loose fitting
- Grey/black skirt. Skirts should be loose fitting. The length must be between knee and ankle
- Plain black, navy or flesh coloured tights only
- Plain black or blue socks (or plain white ankle socks). Over the knee socks are not acceptable

- Plain black shoes of an appropriate design for school. Shoes must be smart and made of a fabric such as leather or PVC that can be polished. Canvas shoes such as Vans shoes are not permitted nor are boots, coloured laces or any kind of trainers from trainer manufacturers (including black trainers, eg: Nike Airforce). Boots are only acceptable during poor weather in the winter
- Blue or black plain headbands only, no decorative or coloured items allowed
- All hair clips, bands, etc. should be plain and in navy blue, black or white
- Head scarves – plain navy blue, black or white
- Dark coats without large branding logos
- Lanyard and photo IDs in the colour of your child year group. (The school will provide the first lanyard and ID card for free. All replacements will be charged for.)
- Face masks may be worn by learners. They must be either the blue surgical masks or reusable masks. Scarfs, bandanas and any other items used to cover their mouth are not permitted

SPORTS KIT

- PE and games kit is compulsory for every day when learners have a PE lesson

COMPULSORY ITEMS:

- PE t-shirt with embroidered Harrow High School logo
- School branded navy tracksuit trousers
- Blue/black or white socks
- Trainers
- Long hair must be tied back during PE lessons

OPTIONAL ITEMS:

- School branded navy tracksuit top
- School branded navy shorts

If you are unable to take part in a sport for any reason, you will be a coach, referee or umpire in school uniform

Your child **MUST NOT** wear any of the following items:

- Coats by brands such as Hoodrich or Trapstar.
- Brightly coloured coats or scarves with large logos, slogans or patterns
- Coats or any form of jumper worn in place of a blazer
- Hoodies or non-uniform jumpers. This includes sportswear (branded or not) – jumpers or tracksuit tops
- Tight fitting trousers/jeans, short skirts (worn above the knee) or trousers with studs

- White shirts that do not button up to the neck
- Black trainers (eg: Nike Airforce) or black canvas plimsolls (eg: Vans) in place of black shoes
- Trainers or boots with the school uniform at break and lunchtime when not engaging in sporting activity
- Steel toe capped boots or shoes
- Visible brightly coloured or patterned socks/tights/hair bands/hair clips
- Any piercings except for single studs in earlobes
- Baseball caps or any type of peaked cap/hat including bucket hats
- Woolly hats in summer term
- Balaclavas or ski masks or any item used to cover any part of the face
- Bandanas of any colour
- Headscarves in any colour other than navy blue, black or white
- Loom bands bracelets or individual loom bands
- A hair colour of an unnatural shade (eg: green, blue, pink etc)
- Haircuts with patterns or lines shaved in the hair or eyebrows

Learners who fail to wear the correct school uniform may be sent home to correct their uniform and return to school. They may also incur detentions for incorrect uniform. Non-uniform items will be confiscated. Parents/carers may be requested to collect these items if they have been confiscated before.

JEWELLERY, NAIL VARNISH , FALSE NAILS, FAKE EYELASHES & MAKE UP

- Learners may wear one item of religious jewellery and a pair of stud earrings
- For safety reasons learners are not permitted to wear rings, necklaces, long earrings or any other kind of adornment
- Nail polish, long nail extensions, fake eyelashes are not permitted
- Excessive make-up is not permitted.

SIXTH FORM (Year 12 & 13)

Post 16 students, as older role models within the learning environment, are expected to be dressed appropriately. No baseball caps/hats are allowed. Nor are any items of clothing by Hoodrich or Trapstar.

DONATIONS OF UNIFORM

We welcome donations of school uniform that are outgrown but still in good condition. These items can help other members of the school community. Please wash and iron any items you wish to donate and send them to the Admissions Office.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Attendance

Attendance at school is a legal requirement for all children of school age. As such the school expects all learners to attend school every day the school is open and also to attend on time. At Harrow High School we expect learners' attendance to be 95%+. We want to work with all the parents/carers of our learners to achieve this. Strong and positive relations between school and home are key to helping remove any barriers to full attendance and/or punctuality. We will listen to any issues and work with families to remove them.

However, we have a duty to challenge poor attendance and punctuality and will work with the local authority to ensure parents/carers fulfill their obligations to send children into school on time. Lost time in school means lost learning opportunities that we provide for all learners. School is the key to unlocking learners' futures and giving them the best chances in life. Government data in their latest guidance 'Working together to improve school attendance May 2022' shows that the lower the rate of attendance to lower the chance of getting good grades.

- Learners achieving between grades 9-5 in English and maths had an overall attendance rate of 96.3% (Absence rate of 3.7%)
- Learners achieving between grades 9-4 in English and maths had an overall attendance rate of 94.8% (Absence rate of 5.2%)
- Learners achieving between grades 0-3 in English and maths had an overall attendance rate of 91.2% (Absence rate of 8.8%)

Being persistently absent (attendance rates of 90% or lower) also increases the risk of young people being involved in crime and serious youth violence. The best place for learners is at school during the school day.

Lateness

Learners are expected to be on the school site for 8:45 at the latest. This allows them to join line-ups for their year group. This ensures a calm and orderly transition from social time to their registration time. Registration time starts at 8:50 and any learner that arrives after this is deemed late to school. They will be stopped, their name taken and added to the late detention at first break. Every learner that is late will be in detention no matter what the excuse.

Learners that do not attend the late detentions will be added to the detentions after school for missing the late detention. We have to maintain high standards of punctuality and learners taking responsibility for themselves.

From September 2022 the government has stipulated that lateness can only extend until 30 minutes after the school day begins (which for us is 8:50am). Learners that are very late and arrive after that time will be marked as absent. This means that any learner getting to school after 9:20am will be marked as absent for their morning session.

We track learners attendance and punctuality tastes and will send warning letters to make you aware of our concerns. If these letters are not heeded, meetings will be held and further warning letters issued. A final Pre-Court Panel hearing will be held in liaison with the Harrow Council. They then have the power to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for persistent poor attendance and/or punctuality. We hope we do not have to get to this position and want to work with parents to get all learners in school, every day, on time.