

## Harris Academy

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20<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## Parent / Carer update – July 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope the summer is offering you and your family some quality time together and that you are all safe and well. As we reach the half way mark of the school holidays, I write to offer you a blend of new and refreshed information. It by no means gives the full arrangements for our return to school. This will be issued via email, website and twitter on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August or as soon after as possible.

### Week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> August

At the end of session, and after my last newsletter had been issued, Audrey May (Chief Education Officer) informed all Head Teachers that there would be an **additional INSET Day on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August** and that there would be a **staggered re-entry** for pupils from Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August.

This is clearly dependant on the continuation of the current positive progress in the fight against COVID-19.

Once finalised, our plans for Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August will be shared with families on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August.

### Transport

The latest Scottish Government advice suggests that face coverings are **not** required on any school contract bus (23S, 27S, 28S, 29S and the Carse of Gowrie contract bus).

For all young people who travel to school on normal service buses, **face masks are compulsory**.

Currently, only young people who have been allocated a place on the Carse of Gowrie contract bus are able to make use of this service; there are no concessionary places available at present although this is being reviewed in line with Scottish Government advice. Any updates will be shared with families as soon as we have it.

Following Scottish Government advice, where possible young people should try and walk, bike or scooter to and from school.

## Uniform

As a reminder, in light of the fact that all young people will return in August on a full-time basis, **full school uniform** will be our preferred dress code for young people.

If, for any reason, families will not be in a position to provide school uniform, please contact the relevant Guidance teacher via the following, relevant email address. We will do all we can to help.

[forresguidance@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:forresguidance@dundeecity.gov.uk)

[cawdorguidance@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:cawdorguidance@dundeecity.gov.uk)

[kinlochguidance@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:kinlochguidance@dundeecity.gov.uk)

[birnamguidance@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:birnamguidance@dundeecity.gov.uk)

**Please note that our alternative uniform of a hooded sweatshirt from August to October has now been cancelled.** The rationale behind this plan rested on the fact that young people would not be in the building full time and therefore we did not want parents / carers to have to purchase uniform that would not be fully utilised.

**All of our new S1 pupils will be given a tie as a gift from the school and can either be picked up at our uniform event on the 5<sup>th</sup> August or at the school on Monday 10<sup>th</sup>.**

## Uniform event

To offer families the chance to buy our school blazer and other Harris-branded uniform (including PE kit), we will be holding a uniform event on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August (4-6pm) here at school.

Academy Uniforms will be on hand to advise on blazer sizing and options. For more information on our blazer, please go to <https://www.academyuniformsltd.co.uk/>

BE Schoolwear shop (situated in Dundee town centre) also hope to be at our event to allow families the chance to look at PE kit and other school essentials without having to visit the shop in town.

*Please note that the cost of available items is the same as when bought in either establishment. This event serves purely as a convenience to our families.*

As a reminder to most, our school uniform consists of:

- Black Trousers or Skirt
- Black shoes or plain black trainers
- Harris tie (*available to purchase from the school the week before school starts or at the Schoolwear shop at a cost of £6 per tie*)
- White shirt or blouse
- Our PE kit is plain navy shorts and T-shirts. Harris crested options are available **but not compulsory**
- And, preferable but not compulsory, our Harris blazer which can be ordered via Academy Uniforms. Wool and polyester options are both available

## Keeping in touch

Our original advice remains:

We would like you to follow us on Twitter. Here, you will find the most up to date information as our plans progress in response to local and national advice.

Our Twitter feed is also heavily used to share all of the fantastic achievements of our young people.

Follow us [@harrisacdundee](https://twitter.com/harrisacdundee)

This letter, and all subsequent communications to parents, will be emailed to those families where we hold a working email address. As well as sending emails, our school website will also continue to be updated with key information from week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> August onwards.

**If you have not received this letter by email, please send your email address, along with the details of your young person (name, class, year group) to [harris@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:harris@dundeecity.gov.uk).**

*As a reminder, please note that emails may not be responded to until week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> August.*

*Yours sincerely,*



Barry Millar  
Head Teacher

