

27<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Start of Autumn Term Arrangements**

I hope this letter finds you well and that you have had a restful summer. Please find a reminder below of arrangements for the start of term.

**Autumn Term Start Dates**

Term begins on Wednesday 3rd September 2025, with a staggered start to help each year group transition smoothly back into school. Please see the schedule below to check when your child is expected to attend during the first three days.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Weds 3rd Sept 2025	Arrive 08.25 am	-	-	-	-	Arrive 08.25 am	-
Thursday 4th Sept 2025	Arrive 08.25 am	-	Arrive 08.25am	-	Arrive 08.25 am	Arrive 10.30 am	Arrive 09.30 am
Friday 5th Sept 2025	Arrive 08.25 am	Arrive 08.25 am	Arrive 10.20 am	Arrive 08.25 am	Arrive 10.20 am	Arrive 10.20 am	Arrive 10.20 am

- A dash (-) means the year group does not attend school that day.
- Please ensure students arrive at the correct time listed.
- From Monday 8th September, all students attend school as normal.

**Welcome to new staff**

I'd like to extend a warm welcome, on your behalf, to the following colleagues who have already joined our school, or will be joining us from September.

Ms Akthar (Teacher of RE)	Mr Awofaedju (Senior Science Technician)
Ms Zaheer (Science Teacher)	Ms Bedeau (Art Teacher)
Ms Preethi (Business Teacher)	Ms Begum (English Teacher)
Ms Barham (History Teacher)	Mr Spence (Lead Teacher Design and Technology)
Ms Walker (Art Teacher)	Mr Parveez (Maths Teacher)
Ms Miotello (Lead Teacher – Geography)	Mr Aileru (Behaviour Mentor)
Ms Rob (Behaviour Mentor)	Ms Sagir (6F Progression Coordinator)

## School Meals

A reminder that, as part of Mayor Rahman's Universal Free School Meals initiative, all secondary students are eligible for a free school meal each day. However, it is still important to apply for Free School Meals (FSM) if you meet the eligibility criteria. FSM status directly affects school funding, including the Pupil Premium, which provides additional funding for each eligible student. This funding helps support essential resources and enrichment opportunities across the school.

You can apply here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> or [https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/.../free\\_school\\_meals.aspx](https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/.../free_school_meals.aspx)

## Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance is essential to a student's academic success—studies show that students who miss just one day every two weeks can fall behind by up to a grade at GCSE level. Frequent lateness also limits progress, disrupts learning and can add up to significant lost learning time over the year.

Our expectation is that all students attend school every day, arrive on time, and are fully prepared for learning.

We kindly remind parents and carers, of the importance of informing the school as early as possible if your child is absent or running late. You can do so by contacting our attendance team on: 020 7536 5525.

Your support in maintaining high attendance and punctuality helps give every child the best chance of success, both academically and personally.

## Uniform and PE Kit

The summer break is a great time to review and update uniform. (<https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/school/bow-school/>)

Compulsory uniform items:	
School tie	Bow School blazer      School jumper/cardigan
Grey Trousers, skirts, or kameez. NB these may be purchased from any supplier.	Black School Shoes (not trainers)
PE Kit:	
School PE T-shirt or jersey (navy blue – branded items required)	Navy shorts, tracksuit bottoms, or leggings (can be bought elsewhere)
Trainers	
Note: Non-navy items will not be permitted.	

Please note: Students not in full uniform will be sent home to change unless they bring a signed note from a parent explaining the issue and expected resolution. A grace period of 5 school days will be provided in such cases.

## Mobile Phones

As we wrote earlier this summer, we recognise that parents may wish pupils to have a mobile phone, in order, to support communication as pupils make their way to and from school. There is growing evidence of the significant risk smartphone ownership poses to a young person's health and wellbeing. Further information about this can be found here: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

On this basis, we are encouraging all parents, but particularly those of Y7 who will be joining us, to consider providing alternative mobile devices which will support communication while limiting the harmful impacts

smartphone ownership can have on young people. Devices such as the Nokia 110 4G can be a suitable alternative.

Please support the school, and distraction free learning, by reminding your child about the school's current mobile policy which states that:

- Mobile phones should not be seen or heard during the school day.
- Phones must be switched off and safely stored.
- If a phone is seen or heard, it will be confiscated and stored securely.

In addition, we kindly ask parents not to call or message students during the school day, as this undermines our policy. Instead, please contact reception, who will ensure any urgent messages are passed on.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Lye', written in a cursive style.

Mr D. Lye  
**Headteacher**