

Thursday 3 September 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to welcome you to the start of the academic year at the new Brooklands Academy. We have spent the last few years planning and working towards 1st September when the school officially split to become a standalone secondary within the 5 Dimensions Trust, and the moment has finally arrived.

Summer work

I am sure you will join me in thanking so many members of our support team who have worked throughout the summer to ensure we are ready to open with everything working (fingers crossed). A few of the key highlights include:

- Rebranding of the building, buses, brochures, and communications
- Launching our new website and social media feeds
<https://www.facebook.com/BrooklandsAcademy>
- Installation of standalone IT systems including Arbor, School Cloud and Applica
- Migration to the new Brooklands domain @BLA5D.com
- New serving facilities in our cafe to improve the service to our staff and students from Culinera





Student return

Students are required to be onsite by 8.20am each day to allow them to be punctual to their tutor session at 8.30am

Key Dates - Welcome to the Year events

We believe that one of the key relationships within school is with your child's tutor and the pastoral team that supports the year group. We are therefore hosting a 'Welcome to the Year' event on Monday 14 September. Year 7 will be in person, and all other year groups will be online. The session will feature a 15-minute overview of the year from the respective Progress Leader and then a 15-minute introduction from the Form Tutor. More details will be shared in the coming days, but I hope that you will be able to set aside the time to meet with these core staff for your child.

Other key dates for the term are on the top right hand side of this letter. One of those key dates is our upcoming Year 6 Open Evening where prospective parents can visit the school to see our facilities and educational offer. This event is on Tuesday 22 September.

Uniform

Please use this link [Brooklands Academy Uniform Consultation Feedback Form – Fill in form](#) if you wish to share your views and feedback on the consultation for our new school uniform that will be phased in from September 2027. All students should continue to wear the current Walton High uniform for this academic year, and the full policy can be found at [Brooklands Academy - School Uniform](#)

A few key points from the policy include:

- Shoes must be black and cannot be trainers, canvas or boots
- Students in Years 7-9 are not permitted to wear make-up and it should not be noticeable for students in years 10 and 11.
- False nails are not permitted and students will be asked to remove them before attending lessons
- Hair should be a single natural colour
- Blazers should be worn around the school site

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones and electronic devices are not permitted to be used by students from the time they enter the school gate until they leave at the end of the day. This includes during social times. Phones should be switched off and placed in their bags in their lockers which are all covered by CCTV. The exemption is a small number of students with medical purposes and this will be recorded on their IHP. Post 16 students are required to follow the same expectations around site but are allowed to use devices in the P16 centre during independent study sessions.

Biometric use

As part of IT upgrade we introduced biometric fingerprint scanning for students using the tills at the end of last term. This means we are able to serve students significantly quicker which benefits our whole community. If your child has not signed up for biometrics, you can do so via the Arbor Parent App or they will be able to collect a form at Student service that will need completing and returning before we can enable this.

Achievement Points

At Brooklands Academy, we are pleased to introduce our new Achievement Points System. As a school, we believe in celebrating our students' positive contributions, effort and success and sharing this with families. Students can earn points at three different levels: **R1 Recognise (+1)** for consistently meeting expectations, such as participating in lessons, working collaboratively and being punctual; **R2 Reward (+2)** for going beyond expectations through extra effort, thoughtful contributions, supporting others and taking part in enrichment activities; and **R3 Recommend (+3)** for exceptional achievements that significantly exceed expectations, including leadership, acting as a school ambassador, modelling excellence to others or achieving success in extra-curricular activities. This system ensures that everyday positive behaviours are valued while also celebrating those students who demonstrate outstanding commitment and achievement. Achievement Points will be recorded and shared on Arbor.

Punctuality and Truancy

Being present and on time to lessons is essential for students' learning and wellbeing. To support this, all students have 5 minutes travel time to move between lessons to allow them to be punctual. From September, being 0-3 minutes late to the lesson will be marked as late and anything above 3 minutes will be recorded as truancy. Those who have truanted the start of their lesson will spend the duration of the lesson in the Reset room. This will be recorded and shared through Arbor as a C3 Truancy and will result in a 30 minute after school detention the next day. We appreciate your continued support in promoting the importance of being present and on time.

Finally, I hope that you have your families have had a restful summer and we look forward to working alongside you throughout this year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A Bennett".

Mr Andy Bennett
Principal