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17 June 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

Proposal of changes to timings of the school day

I am writing to consult with you on proposals to alter the length of the school day and school week.

Currently, the hours of the school day are:

Monday -Thursday

8.40am-2.55pm

Friday

8.40am-2.20pm

From September, we propose to change the times of the school day to:

Monday – Friday

8.40am-3.10pm

This ends the early Friday finish and extends the school day by 15mins.

There are a number of reasons for proposing this change.

- Firstly, in reviewing our curriculum, we believe that we need to extend the time we are giving to teaching students about Personal Development. To that end, the PSMSC lesson will move from an extended tutor period to a discrete timetabled lesson for 1 hour per week.
- Additionally, we want to extend the time that students have with their morning tutor to allow for more pastoral care and support and also to provide time to students to read and to receive help and support in their reading (if that is necessary).
- We want to eliminate the "middle" lunch time break which currently means that the fourth lesson of the day is interrupted by the lunch time, and which currently adds to noise and busyness in the corridors, which can distract the learning in other lessons.

These positive developments when taken together, require a longer school day and week. Incidentally, the Department for Education have published in their white paper <u>"Opportunity</u> for all" their ambition that all schools offer a 32.5 hour week. Our proposal also ensures that we meet this ambition (which may well become statutory in future).

Finally, we feel that a school day, with consistent timings every day will support our positive school culture. The proposal has already been out to consultation with governors and staff, and we are now in a position to consult with parents and families.

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We propose the following structure for the school day:

Tutor/school reading programme 10min tutor/notices plus 15 mins tutor reading	8.40-9.05am
Once per week 25 min assembly	
Lesson 1	9.10-10.10am
Lesson 2 (Including 15 min break - start or end)	Break 1: break 10.10-10.25, lesson 10.30- 11.30am Break 2: lesson 10.15-11.15; break 11.15- 11.30am
Lesson 3	11.35am-12.35pm
Lesson 4 and lunch (60 min lesson and 30 mins lunch break: start or end)	Lunch 1: 12.35-1.05pm; lesson 1.05-2.05 pm Lunch 2: lesson 12.40-1.40pm; lunch 1.40- 2.10 pm
Lesson 5	2.10-3.10pm

Students who have break 1 will also be on lunch 1 and those on break 2 will be on lunch 2. This ensures that it is not too long between the break and lunchtime. The canteen will also be open during the morning break.

As we are proposing a change to the length of the school day I am required to consult with you (and would want to in any case). Please could you feedback your views and comments using <u>this form</u>. We will close the consultation on **Friday 1 July 2022** and then make a final decision by **Friday 8 July 2022**.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Johnson Headteacher