

Introduction

During May and June 2022, the school leadership team has been consulting on proposals to change the length of the school day and the school week. The proposal is to have a consistent school day from 8.40am -3.10pm Monday-Friday.

The rationale for the proposal is:

- To expand curriculum time allocated to delivering our PSMSC programme and to change this to a stand-alone lesson with a dedicated team of teachers
- To expand opportunity within curriculum time to support our whole school reading strategy
- To give sufficient time for the range of pastoral and tutor activities

Feedback to consultation

Staff feedback and response to the proposal:

67% supportive of the proposal, 16% opposed to the proposal, 17% no opinion

Parental feedback:

51% supportive of the proposal, 45% opposed to the proposal, 5% no opinion

Response to key points/questions raised:

Question/comment (summary of the most frequent points made)	School leadership response
This is positive, given the learning lost in lockdown	This has been a key consideration, especially in our focus on improving reading (which has, nationally, been affected adversely by the pandemic lockdowns)
Convenience comments/ has an adverse impact on arrangements to pick up siblings from primary school	Whilst we understand that it is sometimes convenient for parents that our students can meet their siblings at the end of the school day, our priority must be on the quality of education that the school provides.
More time should be given for students to be outside during the breaks	We are investing in additional outside equipment, picnic benches etc. and hope that students will be able to spend more of their lunch and breaktimes outside. The move to two lunchtime slots (from 3) will also release more supervisory staff to facilitate this. It is our hope and expectation that many students will spend their entire lunch break outside in the fresh air
It is too late for children to finish school /school day is too long	Our proposed 3.10pm finish time is very much in line with most schools, locally and nationally. Our proposed hours also align with the DfE ambition for all schools to operate at least a 32.5-hour week
Could we not start the day earlier?	We think that an earlier start would not be helpful for staff, many of whom travel significant distances into school. The school day for staff starts much earlier than 8.40 (staff meetings, prep time etc) so an earlier start than 8.40am is not supported.
The early Friday finish is enjoyed/ a benefit	We sincerely believe that the increased curriculum time we need to give to reading and PSMSC is necessary. The only way to achieve this is to move away from the early Friday finish. We also believe that a consistent week (including consistent lesson timings) can be supportive for some students and staff



Final decision

Following the conclusion of the consultation process and having considered the feedback, the school's leadership team, with the support of the local advisory body have taken the decision to **implement the proposed changes in full.**

The school day from will run from **8.40am – 3.10 pm** Monday to Friday (from September 2022).

Our envisaged daily timings will be:

Tutor/school reading programme (10min tutor/notices 15 mins tutor reading 1 day per week assembly)
8.40-9.05

Lesson 1: 9.10 – 10.10 am

Lesson 2: (including 15 min break - beginning or end)

Break 1: break 10.10-10.25, lesson 10.30-11.30 am

Break 2: lesson 10.15-11.15; break 11.15-11.30 am

Lesson 3: 11.35am-12.35pm

Lesson 4 and Lunch (60 min lesson/30 mins lunch break – 2x lunch breaks beginning 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: 2.10-3.10 pm

We will keep the in-day timings under review into the new academic year.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all stakeholders for their engagement with this process. Parents are now requested to ensure arrangements are made for your child to be in school during these published hours in the new school year.

Andy Johnson, Executive Headteacher,