

Our Ref: KR/DT.522

5th May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

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Your views on the proposal to make changes to the timing of the school day

Parent and Carer consultation 5th May to 12th May 2017

I am writing to you because we are planning to make changes to the structure and end time of our school day. The number of learning hours per week remains unchanged at 25. As part of this process we are seeking the views of parents and carers.

There are a number of changes which we are intending to make:

1. Lessons will move from 50 minutes in duration to 60 minutes. We believe that this will improve the quality of lessons so that all lessons can begin with an effective starter, include a more significant amount of learning and development followed by a high quality summary activity. The extra time will also provide better opportunities for students to redraft and analyse their work, which is one of our key strategies in securing better progress for our students.
2. Tutor period will move from the beginning of the day to the end of period 2. A quick start to learning at the beginning of the day will engage students more effectively.
3. The lunch period will change from being 55 minutes in duration to 40 minutes. Our analysis shows that this still gives all students more than enough access time to Lilies for food.
4. The school day will therefore end at 3.05pm instead of 3.30 pm. There are numerous benefits such as reducing the amount of time lost due to participation in sporting activities (students often have to leave lessons early in the afternoon for away fixtures) to ensuring that more after-school activities take place. For example, light conditions will be better in the winter months allowing for more outdoor activities to be run.
5. There will be one lesson after lunch instead of two. This will make afternoon teaching and learning more effective as we are aware that student performance and concentration dips the later we get into afternoon and the further away from lunch the lesson is.
6. We will move from a weekly timetable to a fortnightly timetable which will allow us greater flexibility in timetabling lessons.

The proposed school day structure:

Timings of the day	
Lesson 1	08.45 - 09.45
Lesson 2	09.45 - 10.45
Tutor time	10.45 - 11.05
Break	11.05 - 11.25
Lesson 3	11.25 - 12.25
Lesson 4	12.25 - 13.25
Lunch	13.25 - 14.05
Lesson 5	14.05 - 15.05

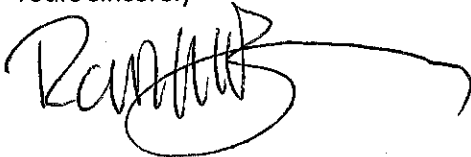
CONSULTATION

If you wish to share your thoughts with regard to these proposals or if you have any questions, then please email me with them so that I can get back in touch with you. Please email, using the following address:
enquiries@stowmarkethigh.suffolk.sch.uk

Alternatively, I am happy to receive responses by letter or by telephone.

All responses will be considered in full by the school's leadership team in reaching a final decision which will be presented to the Governing Body for ratification.

Yours sincerely



Mr K. Rourke-Beasley
Deputy Headteacher