Dear Parent/Guardian,

As you are aware a recent period of consultation has taken place regarding a slight change to the school day. The details of which are provided below as a reminder.

**Proposal**

The proposal was to consult with parents, students, staff and the wider school community to reduce the length of the school day by 10 minutes. It was proposed that the change to the school day be effective from Monday 25th February 2019, following the half term break.

Currently the school day begins at 8.40am and ends at 3.00pm. It was proposed that lunch-time be reduced by 10 minutes for every year group and that school will finish at 2.50pm for all students.

**Illustration of changes to the school day**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Years 7,8 and 10** | | | |
| **Current arrangement** | | **Revised arrangements** | |
| 8.00 – 8.39am | Students arrive and make their way to line-up | **No change** | |
| 8.39am | Line-up |
| **8.40am – 9.00am** | **Mentor time** |
| 9.00am – 10.00am | Period 1 |
| 10.00am – 11.00am | Period 2 |
| **11.00am – 11.20am** | **Break-time** |
| 11.20am – 12.20pm | Period 3 |
| **12.20pm – 1.00pm** | **Lunch-time** | **12.20pm – 12.50pm** | **Lunch-time** |
| 1.00pm – 2.00pm | Period 4b | 12.50pm – 1.50pm | Period 4b |
| 2.00pm – 3.00pm | Period 5 | 1.50pm – 2.50pm | Period 5 |
| **3.00pm** | **School finishes** | **2.50pm** | **School finishes** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Years 9 and 11** | | | |
| **Current arrangement** | | **Revised arrangements** | |
| 8.00 – 8.39am | Students arrive and make their way to line-up | **No change** | |
| 8.39am | Line-up |
| **8.40am – 9.00am** | **Mentor time** |
| 9.00am – 10.00am | Period 1 |
| 10.00am – 11.00am | Period 2 |
| **11.00am – 11.20am** | **Break-time** |
| 11.20am – 12.20pm | Period 3 |
| 12.20pm – 1.20pm | Period 4a |
| **1.20pm – 2.00pm** | **Lunch-time** | **1.20pm – 1.50pm** | **Lunch-time** |
| 2.00pm – 3.00pm | Period 5 | 1.50pm – 2.50pm | Period 5 |
| **3.00pm** | **School finishes** | **2.50pm** | **School finishes** |

**Rationale for the proposal**

In September 2018 a split lunch was introduced to ensure a more pleasant dining experience for our students. Previously all students (approximately 1100) were accessing dining arrangements designed for half that number of students, all at the same time. The split lunch has ensured that students have sufficient time to dine and are able to remain seated in the dining area, rather than having to move on to allow for other students to eat. In fact, we have found that due to the significantly reduced numbers of children accessing the dining facilities at the same children are being served and enjoying social time still with plenty of ‘free time’ to spare.

The proposal to reduce lunch-time by 10 minutes for all students was because;

* The current length of lunch-time (40 minutes) is not necessary. 30 minutes has proven to be sufficient for students to eat their lunch and also benefit from social time. Queueing times have been carefully monitored by senior staff.
* Academy detentions will start at 2.50pm. Half hour detentions will finish at 3.20pm and hour detentions at 3.50pm. This will go some way to alleviating parental concerns about children leaving school as it begins to get darker in the winter months.
* Additionally, we are aware of a number of our students that collect younger siblings from primary school. It is hoped that the revised arrangements will go some way to assisting our students, by allowing them a little extra time to do this.

**Outcome**

9 responses in total were received through the consultation. It is evident from both the number of responses and views provided that there is no overwhelming opinion either way. **Based on this feedback the decision has been taken to reduce the length of the school day from Monday 25th February.** Lunch-time will be reduced by 10 minutes for all year groups; all year groups will finish school at 2.50pm. After school activities (and detentions) will begin at 2.50pm. There will be no other changes to the school day for any of our students.

Yours sincerely,



**Katy Craig**

**Head of Academy**