



## Consultation on the Change to the End of the School Day

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Would learning time be lost through the introduction of a staggered lunch?**

There will not be any loss of teaching and learning time through the introduction of a staggered lunch. The lunchtime would be shortened by 20 minutes.

#### **Will half an hour be enough time for them to eat lunch and have a break?**

Yes. Currently all students in the full school receive their meals within half an hour of the start of lunch. Under the proposed system, with far fewer students, we would anticipate there still being plenty of time to eat in the Dining Hall with friends and then get some fresh air and social time afterwards.

#### **Will staggered lunches still be in year groups?**

Yes, we still want students to spend time with their friends. Our proposal is that full year groups will be on lunch together over three sittings of half an hour each, between 12:10 PM and 1:40 PM.

#### **Will any year group have a split lesson in period 4?**

Only Year 7s will have a split lesson with their lunch being between 12.40 and 1.10pm.

#### **Will students who have sandwiches also have seating?**

Yes. This change will enable every student to eat their lunch in the dining hall, which has previously not been possible, due to capacity.

#### **Will the menu/availability of food be the same for each sitting?**

Each sitting will have the same menu and the full menu choices will be available for each sitting.

#### **What about extra-curricular activities?**

As teachers will also need to have their lunches, extra-curricular activities at lunchtime will no longer be possible, but staff will continue to offer a wide range of extra-curricular events after school.

#### **My child does lunchtime revision sessions. Will these end?**

While lunchtime revision sessions will end, there will still be many revision and catch up sessions that will run after school, along with the clubs and activities as mentioned above.

**Will lunchtime detentions still be held?**

There will no longer be lunchtime detentions as both staff and students will need their lunchtime break.

**What about the timings of after school detentions?**

After school detentions will also finish twenty minutes earlier, meaning any student detained would be able to travel home in the light, which in winter months has not always been the case. This, of course, will also be the same for those involved in clubs and other extra-curricular activities.

**Will staff still be able to provide support for my child at lunch times if they need it?**

Yes. The Student Services team will continue to be available to any student who requires assistance before and after school, at breaktimes and lunchtimes. Members of the Inclusion Team will also be available to provide support for those students in their care.

**Will the tutoring system remain the same?**

Our intention is to alter our tutoring system from September 2020 to have tutor time in year groups rather than in mixed age Houses. This will enable us to target Personal, Social and Health Education to the needs of specific age groups more effectively.

**Why are you holding this consultation now and not waiting until after the current lockdown?**

We believe this is a crucial initiative that will improve the school experience for all of our students. Given the current national turbulence, we feel that it is even more important to start the new academic year with something positive, which we very much believe this to be.

**This will cause my family child-care issues. What can you do to resolve this?**

Unfortunately, for a very small number of parents we recognise that this may cause some difficulties. However, we have to make our decisions based on what we believe provides the best in-school experience for all of our students, which we believe this will do.

**Will the library be open after school still?**

The library will continue to be open after school. The library closes at 4pm on Monday - Thursday and at 3.30pm on Friday.

**I am concerned that school already finishes earlier than the workplace. How does this prepare them for life in the adult world?**

Our belief has always been that school is just a part of a student's learning experience. In addition to learning in the school day, we expect all students to complete homework regularly and thoroughly and to read at home regularly, both fiction and non-fiction. This independent learning is every bit as crucial a part of their education as in-school learning and results in many students working far more hours than an average 8 hour adult working day.