

4th March 2024

Ref: BDE/KAG

Dear families

Re: Changes to school day and strengthening our expectations around behaviour

I want to thank you for your continued support for the improvements that we are making each day. We always welcome your feedback and take this into consideration when we write our policies.

At the heart of any policy must be to ensure that:

- every child attends school daily and on time and,
- they maximise their learning by attending every lesson on time

With the above in mind, from Monday 11th March 2024, we are changing the following:

1) Changes to school lesson times (there is no change to the school start or finish times)

We have made the length of each lesson consistent so that we reduce the cognitive load on students and staff. Lunch times are slightly earlier than at present. Please see the tables below:

Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri		55mins lessons - ALL		
	08:05	School gates open		
	08:15	Late	School gates locked	
	08:15 - 08:17		Line ups	
	08:20 - 8:50	MM	Morning Meetings - Eng, ma, sci, hist, geog & assemblies	
	8:50 - 9:45	P1	All Yr groups lessons	
bell 9:48	9:45 - 10:40	P2A	Yr 9 and 10	7/8/11 BREAK
	10:00 - 10:55	P2B	Yr 7, 8 and 11	9/10 BREAK
bell 10:58	10:55 - 11:50	P3	All Yr group lessons	
	11:50 - 12.45	P4a	Yr 9 and 10	7/8/11 LUNCH
	12:20 - 13:15	P4b	Yr 7, 8 and 11	9/10 lunch
bell 13:18	13:15 - 14:10	P5	All Yr group lessons	
bell 14:13	14:10 - 15:05	P6	All Yr group lessons	
	Wednesday		60 minute lessons - ALL	
	08:05		School gates open	
	08:15	Late	School gates locked	
	08:15 - 08:17		Line ups	
	08:20 - 8:50	MM	Morning Meeting - English, maths, science, history & geog	
	8:50 - 9:50	P1	All Yr groups lessons	
bell 9:53	9:50 - 10:50	P2A	Yr 9 and 10	7/8/11 BREAK
	10:05 -11:05	P2B	Yr 7, 8 and 11	9/10 BREAK
	11:05 - 12:05	P3	All Yr group lessons	
bell 12:08	12:05 - 13.05	P4a	Yr 9 and 10	7/8/11 LUNCH
	12:35 - 13:35	P4b	Yr 7, 8 and 11	9/10 lunch
bell 13:38	13:35 - 14:35	P5	All Yr group lessons	

Please note the time when the school gates are locked. Please talk to your child about the importance of punctuality. It's a life skill.

You will be aware of our 5 simple habits which can be found on our school website.

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2) Our expectations around behaviour

We have a small number of students who often wander around on the corridors and avoid staff on duty. In essence, they are internally truanting from lessons. I know that you will expect us to deal with such behaviour as we wish to ensure that 'no child is left behind'.

From Monday 11th March 2024, the following behaviour expectations will be robustly implemented.

➤ Late to lessons

- Student movement bells will sound 3-mins after the start of lessons. Unless students have written permission in their planners for being late, they will be issued with an after-school detention. **30mins for one late and 60mins for repeat occurrences**
- Staff will be mindful following PE lessons, but this would be an exception.
- **We would expect this detention to be completed on the same day even if your child is late to their last lessons of the day.** You will be contacted via Class-Charts as normal

➤ Internal truancy

- If any students are found to be internally truanting or avoiding staff on corridors, they will be escorted to the 'Reflection Room' where they will remain for the rest of the day.
- **These students will complete 60mins after-school detention on the same day even if the truancy occurs during their last lessons.** You will be notified via Class-Charts as normal

We will have year group assemblies this week to explain the changes as I have outlined in this letter. We would be grateful if you could further re-emphasise the importance of learning at home.

At the time of writing this letter, we are only 15 school days away from the Easter holidays! **More crucially, we are only 35 school days away from first GCSE exam for Year 11.**

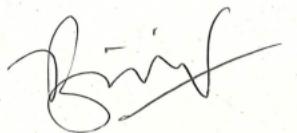
Please allow me to end with quotations from Malala Yousafzai (15-year-old girl from Pakistan who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize)

"Education is one of the blessings of life — and one of its necessities."

"Education is education. We should learn everything and then choose which path to follow. Education is neither Eastern nor Western, it is human."

If you are inspired by Malala's words, then please send your child to school every day and on time with the correct equipment to be successful.

I will write to you again just before we break up for Easter holidays. Thank you, as ever, for your cooperation
Yours faithfully,



Mr B K Dey
Headteacher

