

Dear Parents / Carers

Please be aware that we are changing the timings of the day in September. We are doing this for various reasons that we believe will make lessons more productive and break times/lunch times better spread out.

Currently we have break and lunchtime within an hour of each other, and break time is quite short. New arrangements give a 2 hour block of lessons, followed by a slightly longer break (which will allow pupils to enjoy a snack and drink with a good amount of time before lunch), followed by another 2 hour block of lessons before lunch.

We appreciate that the timing of when eating can occur is an important consideration for many pupils for medical reasons, and we feel this presents a better model to support those pupils.

The new timings also reduce lunch time by 5 minutes, as we feel a shorter lunch will suit most pupils. Having just one lesson in the 'afternoon' will also improve pupils' productivity in that last lesson.

Crucially, the start and finish times remain almost unchanged, so this alteration will not affect anyone's timings of their entire day; we start 5 minutes earlier, and finish 5 minutes earlier. This will result in pupils arriving home 5 minutes earlier than now. However, it may not change the times that buses pick pupils up, but this will be communicated to you before the start of next term.

New timings

8.45-9.50	Lesson 1
9.50-10.50	Lesson 2
10.50-11.10	Break
11.10-12.10	Lesson 3
12.10-1.10	Lesson 4
1.10-1.55	Lunch
2.00-2.25	Tutor time, assemblies, pm registration
2.25-3.25	Lesson 5

Buses depart 3.35pm

Cashless systems

We are currently working on the introduction of a cashless system at school, which is something we have considered for a while now. This will allow quick and convenient payments for everything to be made without the need for pupils to bring any money to school at any point. More details will follow, so please keep an eye on school communications.

Wearing face coverings

Thank you for your support on this. In light of the current infection rates and the concern over the Delta variant, we intend to continue with current arrangements until the end of term. School is currently being told to prepare for the possibility of carrying out mass testing again in September, but we will probably not find out whether we have to do this until later in the summer. Should we have to do this, we will communicate the arrangements before term starts.

Please contact school should you have any queries or require clarification on any of these issues.

Yours sincerely
Tim Gibbs