



Queen Elizabeth II High School

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Headteacher: Mrs. C. Clarke



27th June 2023

Re. Consultation - School Day

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to my letter dated 16th May 2023, I write to provide an update following the recent consultation regarding a change to our school day timings.

Our rationale for the change, is to:

- provide additional time at the end of the school day for students to engage in enrichment clubs;
- provide time for more regular opportunities for staff to engage in Continued Professional Development after school, in order to promote a culture of learning, collaboration, evidence informed practice and innovation.

We have greatly appreciated the feedback received from our students, parents/carers and staff and after careful consideration of all feedback received, I can confirm that the proposed changes to the school day timings will take effect from September 2023.

The new school day timings will be as follows:

8.45	Tutor/Assembly session
9.05	Period 1
09.55	Period 2
10.45	Break
11.05	Period 3
11.55	Period 4
12.45	Lunch (Clubs 12.45-1.10)
1.35	Period 5
2.25	Period 6
3.15	End of school day
3.15-4.15	Enrichment Clubs

The feedback from students, parents/carers and staff has been very positive, however there have been some queries which I have addressed below. Where a parent/carers has more specific queries that they may require support with, please feel that you can raise these through the QE2enquiries@sch.im

Will students have enough time for lunch?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All year groups are on a rota to ensure fairness in the queueing system. When it is not their time to queue, they are able to socialise, go to their common room or a club, or go outside.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most days, all year groups are served within the first 20 minutes of the lunch period, which still leaves 30 minutes of social time with the revised timings. • The school plans to increase the number of tills to speed up payment queues. • Where students don't have their lunch cards, this has a knock on effect to service at the tills. We ask that parents/carers and tutors check that students have a lunch card. Parents/Carers should check that their child has enough funds for their meal.
<p>The Kirk Michael bus is overcrowded, meaning students arrive later with service bus.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This feedback has been passed on to Bus Vannin who will monitor and ensure that both buses arrive before the start of the school day. At the end of the school day, the first bus will reduce the number of stops, to ensure an even spread of students across both buses. Details from Bus Vannin to follow.
<p>Will the change affect primary children?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Vannin will shortly be circulating their revised timings, in order to support families to consider plans for September. School have shared specific feedback relating to buses with Bus Vannin. Most routes should be unaffected. The 51 bus is able to go from QEII to Peel Clothworkers, if there are primary students who wish to catch it. Please inform our school if this is the case and we can inform Bus Vannin.
<p>Concern of timing given industrial action and impact on enrichment clubs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are hopeful that we can continue to move forward strategically and that an agreement between the DESC and unions can be finalised so that the industrial action will cease next academic year. If it is still in place there will still be staff that can offer after school clubs and lunch time clubs, as not all teaching staff are members of the NASUWT.
<p>Concern over teaching hours and staff having enough time for lunch.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No lesson/teaching time is affected with the change to timings, other than the 5 minute reduction in tutor time. This change does not affect teacher contact time for staff or their preparation, planning and assessment (PPA) time, as the main changes are to the start time of the school day and a shorter lunch time. • Staff are entitled to a 50 minute lunch break. Some staff currently choose to run a 30 minute lunch club, despite their entitlement. These clubs are not compulsory at lunch time. Staff have been consulted as part of this process and some staff still plan to run clubs at lunch time and are also keen to introduce them after school. A homework/study club will also be introduced (library). An enrichment calendar will now be produced for September.

<p>Is it possible for staff to do Continuous Professional Development in the day time?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff currently have a 50 minute period each week to engage in their own evidence based research to enhance their practice. The proposal is to collapse some Inset days and calendar more regular CPD from 3.30-4.30pm several times each half term. Research indicates that CPD is most effective when learning can be revisited and where schools 'recognise the time constraints faced by teachers and adapt professional development accordingly'. EEF-Effective-PD-Recommendations-Poster.pdf (d2tic4wvo1iusb.cloudfront.net)
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I can confirm that Bus Vannin have carefully considered each bus route and they were appreciative of your feedback. As soon as we have the revised bus times, we will email these to you.

I plan to share the consultation findings with students in assemblies this week.

We thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs C Clarke
Headteacher