



Consultation on changing the timings of the school day

Dear Parents, Carers and students of years 7-10,

We have been asked by the Local Authority if we would like to change the timings of the school day from September. This is a consultation and will only go ahead if the Local Authority can provide the school buses for the timings proposed. If there are not the buses available, then the timing of the start of the school day will not change. The consultation is open to the school governors, staff, parents & carers and students who will be at Longhill High School from September.

From September all schools need to provide 32.5 hours of supervision during one week. This includes mentor time, lessons, break time and lunch time. We are currently 25 minutes short of this time and so from September we will be adding 5 minutes to the length of the school day. This will be added to mentor time where students complete work such as literacy, well-being activities, attendance work, current affairs work and the year group assembly.

We have the option of requesting the school day to start at the same time as it does now, or to move to a later time. We are aware that Longhill High School has one of the earliest start times compared with other secondary schools meaning some of our students who have a long journey to school have a very early start to their day. Research also shows that secondary school students work better with a later start to their school day.

However we also realise that by having an earlier finish to the school day compared with other schools, some of our students are able to collect younger siblings from primary school which may no longer be possible if we finish later in the day. Some enrichment activities may also not benefit if PE clubs and fixtures are in the darker hours during the winter months, or if this change causes students to walk home in the dark due to the later finish.

There are 5 proposals.

Proposal 1 is we remain with the same start time of the school day. With the 5 minute extension to mentor time all current timings would be moved on for 5 minutes meaning the school day would finish at 14.50.

	Proposal 1
Mentor time	8.20-8.45
Period 1	8.45-9.45
Period 2	9.45-10.45
Break	10.45-11.05
Period 3	11.05-12.05
Period 4	12.05-13.05
Lunch	13.05-13.50
Period 5	13.50-14.50

Proposals 2, 3 & 4 involve starting the school day at a later time. As this would move our lunch time to very late in the school day, we would change the structure of the school day so that break is now after period 1 and lunch is after period 3.

	Proposal 2	Proposal 3	Proposal 4
Mentor time	8.35-9.00	8.45-9.10	9.00-9.25
Period 1	9.00-10.00	9.10-10.10	9.25-10.25
Break	10.00-10.20	10.10-10.30	10.25-10.45
Period 2	10.20-11.20	10.30-11.30	10.45-11.45
Period 3	11.20-12.20	11.30-12.30	11.45-12.45
Lunch	12.20-13.05	12.30-13.15	12.45-13.30
Period 4	13.05-14.05	13.15-14.15	13.30-14.30
Period 5	14.05-15.05	14.15-15.15	14.30-15.30

Proposal 5 is the opportunity to suggest another structure of the school day that works with our current timings (mentor time 25 minutes, 5 x 1 hour lessons, break time 20 minutes, lunch time 45 minutes).

Please could you use the following link to access the survey. Please add details if you are selecting proposal 5.

<https://forms.gle/S98KHEdVmPf2kYfP8>

Apologies for the tight turnaround - the deadline for the survey to be completed is **Friday 24th March**.

Once our proposals are sent to the local authority, they will then inform me whether our suggested timings can be served by the school buses. I will then pass on this information as soon as I am informed.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries.

Many thanks,



Bill Holland
Acting Headteacher