

To: Parent / Carers of Years 7-13

12 May 2021

Our ref: 8785638

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Proposed change to the timings of the school day at South Hunsley and Sixth Form from September 2021**

I hope you and your family are well and continue to stay safe.

I am writing to launch with you a consultation on proposals to change the timing of our school day from September 2021 and to seek any views you may wish to share about this proposed change.

**Background and Rationale**

Last year we began to consider a potential change to our school day to facilitate an improvement in both the experience for students during lunchtime and our management of them during this time. The option we explored involved the introduction of a split lunch keeping the structure of the day the same as it has been historically. Work on this was then paused due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Having implemented a model of 100 minute lessons with staggered break and lunchtimes to reduce transitions and contact between our different year group 'bubbles' the time is right to revisit this discussion as we consider how we want to structure our school day from September 2021.

Although a small number of departments (mainly practical subjects) have found the length of 100 minutes to be beneficial, on balance we need to return to 60 minute lessons and the flexibility that a curriculum model of 50 lessons a fortnight offers.

However, many staff and students have commented on the benefits of a split lunch, all of which we identified as potential positive impacts when we considered this last year.

- reduced time for queuing for canteens, particularly for students in Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 & 9)
- increased space and time for students to sit and enjoy their lunchtime meal
- easier access to a variety of spaces at lunchtime - including toilets etc
- opportunity to access larger indoor spaces during wet weather which currently has not been available
- a calmer environment with far fewer students moving at any one time - especially beneficial for our youngest and most vulnerable students
- increased staff-student ratio for supervision of a big site.

In addition, when we last explored this, these were some of the other potential benefits we identified:

- increased choice of food from both dining facilities due to the operation of a system of two lunchtime sittings
- greater opportunity for students to access the wide range of clubs and activities that we offer at lunchtime as a result of spending less time queuing and waiting to access our dining facilities
- lighter nights for journeys home in the winter due to an earlier finish
- greater flexibility for activities after school for revision, booster classes, staff training and primary liaison events
- after-school sports fixtures finish earlier allowing students, particularly those who are younger to return home sooner for their evening meal
- increased convenience for colleagues with young children who may be able to collect children earlier
- further support for improved work life balance by enabling those colleagues who wish to stay on site and complete work before going home

A number of models have been considered and explored by the Senior Leadership Team with our proposed model detailed below:

#### Historic School Day at South Hunsley and Sixth Form

Timing	All Cohorts
08.45	Assembly/Tutor Time
09.05	Movement
09.10	Period 1
10.10	Movement
10.15	Period 2
11.15	Break
11.35	Period 3
12.35	Lunch
13.30	Period 4
14.30	Movement
14.35	Period 5
15.35	End of normal school day

#### Proposed model from September 2021

Timing	Year 7, 8, 9 & 12	Years 10, 11 & 13
08.40	Period 1	
09.45	Break 09.45 – 10.05	Movement
09.50		Period 2 09.50 – 10.50
10.05	Period 2 10.05 – 11.05	Break 10.50 – 11.10
10.50	Movement	
11.05	Period 3	
11.10	Lunch 12.10 – 12.50	Movement
12.10		Period 4 12.15 – 13.15
12.15	Period 4 12.50 – 13.50	Lunch 13.15 – 13.55
12.50	Movement	
13.15	Assembly / Tutor Time	
13.50	Movement	
13.55	Period 5	
14.15	End of normal school day	
14.20		
15.20		

N.B If we decide to proceed with the proposed model, this would be subject to a one year trial period to enable us to fully assess impact.

## Your Views

We welcome your views on the proposed model. Please email Sara Aitchison [Sara.Aitchison@southhunsley.org.uk](mailto:Sara.Aitchison@southhunsley.org.uk) by Wednesday 16 June 2021 with any feedback that you wish to share.

All representations made will be reviewed and considered by the local governing body after the end of the consultation period with confirmation of the outcome of the consultation being shared with everyone by 30 June 2021.

Can I thank you for your continued support and look forward to receiving any feedback you wish to give.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Williman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Williman  
**Headteacher**