

RHU/ALA/Feb 2019

28 February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO THE ACADEMY DAY 2019/20

We are writing to all parents to consult on a proposal to alter the timing and format of the school day at Ormiston SWB Academy with effect from September 2019.

In summary, the proposal is to start at 8.40am and finish at 2.45pm EVERY DAY.

All Days			
Time	Year 8 & 10 & SWB6	Year 7	Year 11 & Year 9
08.40 – 09.00	Form Time	Form Time	Form Time
09.00 – 10.00	Lesson 1	Lesson 1	Lesson 1
10.00 – 11.00	Lesson 2	Lesson 2	Lesson 2
11.00 – 11.15	Break	Break	Break
11.15 – 12.15	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	Lesson 3
12.15 – 12.45	Lunch	Lesson 4a	Lesson 4
12.45 – 13.15	Lesson 4	Lunch	
13.15 – 13.45		Lesson 4b	Lunch
13.45 – 14.45	Lesson 5	Lesson 5	Lesson 5
15.00 – 16.00	Enrichment Activities/After School Clubs/Staff Meetings		

As an academy, we can set our own curriculum time but the minimum teaching requirements as advised by the Government are not being compromised by these proposed changes. It will actually allow us to extend the curriculum by an additional one-hour period each week, which is an additional 39 hours per year.

The focus is allowing our students more of an opportunity to learn in the morning sessions when research has shown this is when children are most alert. The majority of our students are already in the building at 8.30am ready to start the school day and punctuality in the school is generally excellent. By changing the timings in the morning and afternoon, the emphasis on continued progress and attainment of our students can be reinforced. It is our responsibility to ensure that students are ready and prepared to learn in all lessons and that the time within the school day is focussed on this objective.

Another key priority is the safety of our students at the beginning and end of the school day. By finishing at 3.15pm many children leave school in the dark during the winter months, particularly when they attend after school clubs or detentions. By finishing at 2.45pm it will aid this issue, particularly during the winter months.

We are also mindful that the new Loxdale Primary School will open opposite the Academy in September 2019 and staggered end times between them and us will aid traffic flow and student pick-ups along Dudley Street.

We would like to emphasise that parents should drop off and pick up students at the rear of the site on Prosser Street and not on the double yellow lines or leisure centre at the front of the school.

We believe that these proposed changes, which are planned to take effect from the start of the 2019/20 academic year in September, will provide you son/daughter with a curriculum structure and school day which is broad and balanced, supports their learning needs and provides further opportunities to both stretch and challenge them and so provide an outstanding educational experience.

If you would like to submit any feedback about this proposed change to the structure and timing of the school day or have any questions or queries with regards to it, please send your comments via email (enquiries@oswba.co.uk), with the subject title '**School Day Consultation 2019**', before 4.00pm on Friday 15 March 2019.

Many thanks for your attention to this consultation process. We look forward to your feedback and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Rod Hughes
Principal



Mr Martyn Palfreyman
Vice Principal - Operations