

Monday 1st June, 2020.



# Penketh High School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Outcome of the consultation regarding the length of the school day at Penketh High School.

I would like to thank all those who responded to the consultation on the proposal to change the timings of the school day each Friday from September 2020 and once we can reopen the school.

We received 39 responses in total with the vast majority of the responses (69.2%) conveying their support for the changes and a quarter of responses opposing the proposal (25.6%). 5.13% of responses didn't commit to agreeing or disagreeing to the changes, mainly asking questions.

The number of responses disagreeing with the proposed changes (10) accounted for 1.2% of all families at the school and so there was limited challenge to the proposal to change the timings of the school day each Friday. The outcome has been discussed by governors and based on the rationale for change and consideration of the consultation feedback, the decision to change the school day each Friday has been upheld.

In discussions we identified that a number of parents, both those who agreed or disagreed with proposals, included some important points for consideration; these have been discussed and contributed to the decision making process. Whilst we have responded to individual points raised, there were some consistent themes that we have collated and provided a response to below;

- Could we close early one day as opposed to starting later on Friday mornings?
- Could we look at the timing of lunch within the day as some parents felt pushing this beyond 1:15pm was too late in the day?
- Could we maintain break at 15mins rather than reducing to 10mins?
- What would the provision be for pupils who would usually arrive on site prior to the usual start time of 8:40am?

In relation to the closing early for one day as opposed to opening later for pupils each Friday, our rationale around this model is that closing early would prevent us from offering some of the wider enrichment opportunities that are conducted after school. Staff meetings take place on a Tuesday afternoon and so this already limits our provision to four nights per week and losing another afternoon would reduce this to three. Currently, for example, we have four subject areas that conduct their Year 11 EPS sessions after school on Fridays, offering pupils additional opportunities to support their preparation for examinations. Whilst we want to conduct additional training we also don't want this to impact on the wider opportunities we can offer to our pupils that wrap around their basic curriculum delivery.

We can appreciate where parents have concerns that lunch might be considered late as it was proposed to move to 1:30pm. We have therefore responded to these concerns by setting lunch to an earlier in the day. This will now commence at 12:30pm on Friday meaning that pupils will have two hours of lessons after lunch as opposed to one as in the original proposal.

We have also recognised that maintaining a 15 minute break for pupils in the morning would be welcome by parents and so we have now included this in the final schedule for the day. This has been achieved by starting the day earlier at 9:15am as opposed to the proposed 9:20am start in the initial proposal.



**PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | NURTURE | CHALLENGE | ACHIEVE**

THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O PRIESTLEY COLLEGE, LOUSHERS LN, WARRINGTON WA4 6RD. COMPANY NUMBER 10689247

Penketh High School, Heath Road, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2BY

Tel: 01925 722298 Fax: 01925 723812 e-mail: [principal@penketh.warrington.sch.uk](mailto:principal@penketh.warrington.sch.uk) Website: [www.penkethhighschool.co.uk](http://www.penkethhighschool.co.uk)

Principal: Mr J Carlin BA(Hons) NPQH



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



International School Award



Healthy School



INVESTOR IN CAREERS





As stated in the consultation, we are planning on providing a number of supervised areas of school for pupils to access from 8:30am each day. These will be spaces that allow pupils to complete work, to socialise or pursue some extra curricular interests e.g. the school library. Some parents expressed concern that a later start time would mean that pupils would have to manage their own departure time from the family home for a later school bus. At present there are two buses operating the 265 service and they arrive at school at 8:20am and 8:35am respectively, the 263 currently arrives on site at 8:25am. We would only alter bus service times slightly so that pupils could access a service broadly in line with the other school days, which will hopefully alleviate concerns about pupils needing to manage their own time in the morning without parental supervision. We would ensure that the 263 service runs as it currently does and that one of the 265 services is also available for pupils to arrive onsite at 8:25am (only 5 mins later than the usual service), this would enable pupils to then access a supervised areas around school from 8:30am.

Can I once again take this opportunity to thank all of those who responded to the consultation. Can I also thank parents who included words of support and encouragement for our desire to further improve the school and for those messages of thanks for the provision we're striving to offer pupils during this period of school closure. It's a difficult and unprecedented period for everyone and these messages help to raise the spirits of the staff who are working incredibly hard to ensure we continue to deliver the best possible experience for pupils, albeit remotely.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Carlin  
Principal.

## School day timings from September 2020

Proposed school day each Friday			Monday to Thursday remains the same		
Time	Length of period	Period	Time	Length of period	Period
8:20am	55 mins	Staff CPD	8:40am	20 mins	Morning Registration
9:15am	1 hour	Period 1	9am	1 hour	Period 1
10:15am	1 hour	Period 2	10am	1 hour	Period 2
11:15am	15 mins	Break	11am	15 mins	Break
11:30am	1 hour	Period 3	11:15am	1 hour	Period 3
12:30pm	40 mins	Lunch	12:15pm	1 hour	Period 4
13:10pm	1 hour	Period 4	13:15pm	45 mins	Lunch
14:10pm	1 hour	Period 5	14:00pm	1 hour	Period 5
15:10pm	-	School finishes	15:00pm	10 mins	Afternoon Registration
			15:10pm	-	School finishes



**PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | NURTURE | CHALLENGE | ACHIEVE**

THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O PRIESTLEY COLLEGE, LOUSHERS LN, WARRINGTON WA4 6RD. COMPANY NUMBER 10689247

Penketh High School, Heath Road, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2BY

Tel: 01925 722298 Fax: 01925 723812 e-mail: [principal@penketh.warrington.sch.uk](mailto:principal@penketh.warrington.sch.uk) Website: [www.penkethhighschool.co.uk](http://www.penkethhighschool.co.uk)

Principal: Mr J Carlin BA(Hons) NPQH

