

Prospect School

PROSPECT SCHOOL, READING

28th June 2017

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Dear Parent and Carer

Headteacher: Mr Philip Davies

You will be aware that when Ofsted visited us in September, they were pleased with the improvement in our exam results. This was as a result of very hard work by our staff and students. If we are to continue this improvement, we need to always be looking for ways in which we can maximise student achievement.

To this end, the Governors and staff have been considering adjusting the school day from the start of the new academic year. We are not considering changing the length of the time students spend in lessons or changing the length of the one hour lessons. The proposal is to have two equal breaks of thirty minutes, and the school finishing at 2.45 p.m. instead of the current finish time of 3.00 p.m.

The current lunch break lasts fifty minutes from 1.10 p.m. to 2.00 p.m., with all the students having finished using the dining room long before the end of lunch. The catering team would still offer a hot meal, with the offer at both breaks being similar, which would allow students to choose when they eat their main meal. The school has a long history of extra-curricular activities arranged during lunch time, but the majority are run after school and I would not want to lessen these. Indeed, I would want to increase and widen access to these opportunities.

The shorter lunch will have a number of advantages:

- Students will engage with their learning sooner in the afternoon session.
- Teachers will be better able to meet with students at the end of the day to support them with their learning.
- It will help with students leaving school at 2.45 p.m. in the winter months when it is dark earlier.
- It will enable students to collect older siblings from local primary schools.
- When travelling to away fixtures, we will be able to arrive earlier.
- More teachers are available to supervise students if we have shorter lunch break.

I have tried to set out fairly the educational possibilities that might be realised from a change in the structure of the day. As a key partner with the school, both the Governors and I would like to have feedback on your views of the proposed changes and any implications you think they may have for you. If you would like to put your views forward, please email me headteacher@prospect.reading.sch.uk by the 7th July. I attach the current school day structure, along with the proposed one.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Philip Davies'.

P Davies
Headteacher

ASPIRE - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE

Current school Day

8.25 a.m.	All students on site
8.30 a.m.	Registration
8.45 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	Period 1
9.45 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	Period 2
10.45 a.m. – 11.10 a.m.	Break (25 minutes)
11.10 a.m. – 12.10 p.m.	Period 3
12.10 p.m. – 1.10 p.m.	Period 4
1.10 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.	Lunchtime (50 minutes)
1.55 p.m.	Warning bell
2.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Period 5
3.00 p.m.	End of the school day

Proposal

8.25 a.m.	All students on site
8.30 a.m.	Registration
8.45 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	Period 1
9.45 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	Period 2
10.45 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.	Break 1 (30 minutes)
11.15 a.m. – 12.15 p.m.	Period 3
12.15 p.m. – 1.15 p.m.	Period 4
1.15 p.m. – 1.45 p.m.	Break 2 (30 minutes)
1.45 p.m. – 2.45 p.m.	Period 5
2.45 p.m.	End of the school day

ASPIRE - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE