

Ref. JS/SP
18 June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Confirmed changes to the school day from September 2021 at Hindley High School (Outwood Academy Hindley)

I write further to the letter I sent in May 2021 to share with you the results of the recent consultation regarding the proposed changes to the school day structure and to confirm the changes which will be effective from 1 September 2021.

I would like to thank everyone who submitted feedback via the consultation. We have reviewed these comments alongside the feedback we received from other key stakeholders including staff and governors, the local authority, local primary and secondary Headteachers and transport services. I have summarised the key themes below.

- Of the 53 parental responses received, a significant proportion were in support of the proposed changes believing them to be of positive benefit to students.
- The reliance of some students on the school bus service and the need for its timetable to be aligned with the proposed changes. We will work with Transport for Greater Manchester as they review and align the service they provide to Hindley students with the proposed timings. Further information will be communicated as soon as it is received.
- Contradictory research and studies into the brains of young adults and when they learn most effectively.
- It was noted that the proposed changes may impact parents/carers with younger children in local primary schools where the school day timings differ and for parents/carers whose working patterns are set around the current school day timings.

All feedback has been taken into consideration in confirming the arrangements for September.

In summary, they are:

- Students will need to arrive at school by 8:20am, ready for a prompt 8:25am start to Tutor time.
- The school day will end at 2:30pm each day, with optional enrichment activities ending at 3:30pm. Further details about the enrichment offer will be communicated in September.

The new structure of the day will be as follows:

Period	Time
Arrival on Site	8:20am
Start of the School Day	8:25am
Tutor Time/Assembly	8:25am - 8:45am
Period 1	8:45am - 9:45am
Period 2/Staggered Break (15 Minutes)	9:45am - 11:00am
Period 3	11:00am - 12:00pm
Period 4/Staggered Lunch (30 Minutes)	12:00pm - 1:30pm
Period 5	1:30pm - 2:30pm
Enrichment (Optional)	2:30pm - 3:30pm

As I outlined in the rationale I enclosed with my previous letter, I believe these changes will be beneficial to the school community, and will have a positive effect on your child's education. It has been pleasing to see the level of support from families regarding the proposed changes.

Our Enrichment programme will be shared with families in September. A wide range of activities will be available for students to sign up to which will further enhance our academic curriculum offer. As part of this, we will engage with local external providers to widen our programme of activities.

Our Tutor Group activities will be age related and will focus on developing students' personal development. A structured programme of learning will be in place that covers areas such as mental health and wellbeing, current affairs, careers guidance and experiences, literacy and numeracy.

I appreciate that these changes may affect you, in terms of childcare or working arrangements, and hope by providing you with notice of the changes at this point in the year, you will have sufficient time to make appropriate arrangements for 1 September 2021.

I would like to thank you for your support and look forward to continuing to work with you as the school starts an exciting new chapter.

Yours faithfully



Julie Slater
Chief Executive Principal, Secondary



Jude Norman
Acting Headteacher