

## Changes to the Timing of the School Day

Further to my email to parents on 11 January 2016, below are some frequently asked questions about the changes.

If the answer to your question is not explained in the letter or addressed below, please email [JHart@ttsonline.net](mailto:JHart@ttsonline.net) with your query.

### Frequently Asked Questions?

- 1. Why have you shortened the School day?**

Most of the answers to this question are contained in the letter that was sent to parents 11 January. This can be accessed below.
- 2. Will the length of the lessons be reduced?**

3 hour lessons will be reduced by 20 minutes to 2 hours and 40 minutes. 1.5 hour lessons will be reduced by 10 minutes to 1 hour 20 minutes. However, it should be noted that the opportunity to attend extra lessons session 3 will be available in all subject areas allowing students to exceed the current 3 hour contact time where desired. The group sizes will be smaller and therefore an increased level of personalised support will be available for the students.
- 3. When will we know what subjects will be available session 3?**

A timetable will be published in advance of each term detailing all the opportunities available to the students.
- 4. Is it true that students will have less contact time with their teachers?**

No. They will have more contact time, but they will have control over where they need the extra contact time. Whilst the formal day is shorter by 40 minutes, students can have access to an additional 105 minutes during session 3, four times a week
- 5. If a student does not wish to attend session 3 lessons or activities can they remain in school?**

No. We are not a child minding service and parents should collect their children at the end of the formal day 3.15pm. Registers will be kept by teachers on who attends the extra sessions.
- 6. What time will the coaches depart to Wolverhampton?**

At 3.25pm and 5.25pm.
- 7. Will session 3 be compulsory?**

In certain instances yes, where attendance has impacted upon progress or if a teacher believes a student or class are not making the expected rate of progress. Parents will be advised in advance.
- 8. How many session 3s should my child attend?**

This very much depends on the child and individual circumstances. At least once a week for subject support and combined with sporting fixtures and performing arts activities most students will probably attend around twice a week.



11 January 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Review of the timing of the school day**

I write to give you early notice of changes to the timing of the school day in the next academic year starting September 2016. These changes were approved at a recent Governing Board meeting.

The whole purpose of these revised arrangements is to provide a higher level of personalised support for the students whilst reducing the pressures that they face as all examinations will now take place at the end of Year 11 and the end of 6.1 and 6.2.

With the elimination of early entry GCSE and the new numbered grading systems expecting higher levels of performance combined with more demanding new courses, expectations on students are now greater than ever.

Students in Key Stage 4 will sit approximately 25 examinations in a 4 week period.

A review of the existing provision has therefore been undertaken and Governors have approved the following:

- The day will start as normal 08.30am
- Formal day will finish 45 minutes earlier at 15.15pm
- Students will study a maximum of 10 subjects in Key Stage 4
- For those who the School decides it will benefit, students will also have the option of moving from a 4 AS Level programme to a 3 A Level programme at the end of 6.1
- Session 3 will remain with each department providing a programme of additional personalised support which will combine mandatory attendance if required by the teacher and optional attendance for students wishing to access further support in their learning.
- The module reports will be amended so that we can record what the students are doing during Session 3 which can include activities outside school such as sporting and performing activities hosted by other providers as well as academic, sporting and performing activities hosted by the School
- Coach departure to Wolverhampton will be at 15.25pm and 17.20pm

I will continue to monitor the impact of the changes and review the revised arrangements at the end of the next academic year.

Yours sincerely

Sir Kevin Satchwell  
**Headmaster**

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