



SIR THOMAS BOTELER

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

THROUGH GOD, WE CARE

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Dear parents and carers,

As a school we continue to go from strength to strength and the number of young people wanting to attending is increasing daily. Since September we have taken a further 65 young people into school into year groups other than Year 7. Our current Year 7 is over subscribed. We now have an excellent reputation and are overwhelmed by the positive feedback we receive. I am also aware that there are always areas we can improve on and of course we are addressing these.

When we are completely full we will be a school of 8.25. This for me is a perfect size as it still allows us to know all our young people as individuals. This is something we pride ourselves on and something we would never want to lose.

However, with growth, this sometimes means we need to make adjustments to accommodate the young people and their needs, therefore I need to look at the timing of the school day. What I am proposing is to extend break so I can ensure I can get all the young people through the canteen. Many of the young people like to purchase food at break as our lunch is later and I want to make sure I can accommodate everyone, so that they get time to have a break, purchase some food and go to the bathroom.

This also coincides with the Government mandate that all schools should offer a 32.5-hour week of compulsory education. These hours include the official start time of the school day, breaks and lunchtime. It does not include all the extra provision we put in place as that is not compulsory, regardless of the fact that it is incredibly well attended.

This would therefore mean that the school day would finish at 15.00 (rather than 14.50), the same as a Friday. This is still an early finish in comparison to most Secondary schools and it also gives us plenty of time for extra-curricular provision and sporting events after school. I am looking at also extending our Tutor period as our Tutor provision was praised by Ofsted and I want to build on this too. However, this is an internal timing shift.

The start of the school day will still be at 8.25 (on site) and Tutor period at 8.30 (Year 7-10). Year 11 will start at 8.10 for Period 0 the same as they have done for the past 2 years. We currently are looking at our Pastoral System, as we have made some significant changes for



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the next academic year, which we will be communicating out in due course. From September, there is going to be a huge focus on standards and readiness for learning. As always, we will be supportive, however there will be a new framework in place for those young people who do not conform to our expectations.

If there are any concerns about finishing at 15.00 then please contact my PA Mrs Muckley jmuckley@boteler.org.uk and I will address your points personally.

New Timings for Monday to Thursday

Line up outside for standards check 8.25am

Tutor time	8.30-8.55	Year 11 start at 8.10-8.55
Period 1	8.55- 9.55	
Period 2	9.55-10.55	
Break	10.55 –11.15	
Period 3	11.15-12.15	
Period 4	12.15-13.15	
Lunch	13.15-14.00	
Period 5	14.00-15.00	
Period 6	Year 11 only from January - Tuesday to Friday 15.00 -16.00 (same as this year)	

There will be no change to the current timings of the school day on a Friday. On a Friday our students in all year groups will continue to start at 8.50 and finish at 15.00 Remember it is a later start time due to staff training.

I really appreciate your support with this and if there are any problems then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mrs B Scott-Herron
Headteacher



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