



26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Proposed changes to the start and finish times of the school day at Denton Community College**

Dear Parent/Carer,

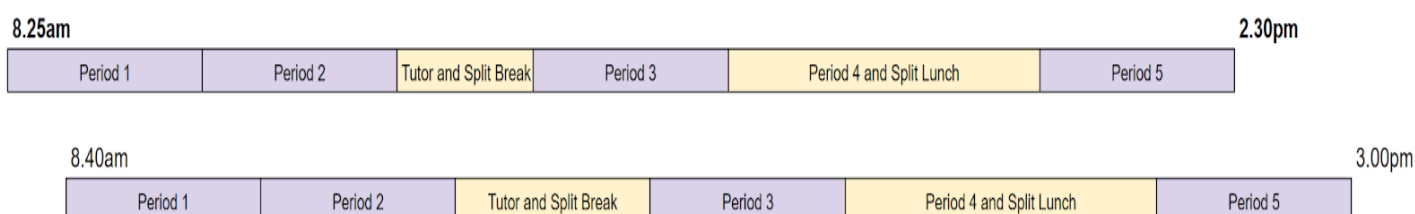
As you will be aware, Northern Education Trust (NET) is providing support to Denton Community College in order to improve the outcomes and life chances of the students. We are proud of the changes we have made together and we are keen to continue to help the school by implementing other systems designed to improve the school further.

Earlier in the year we moved the timetable to one that matches the structure of the day in all other NET academies. Our school day now begins with students going straight to period 1 lessons as opposed to their tutor group, which now occurs midway through the morning. We also split the break and lunch times, meaning all students are able to eat without significant queue times and then sit with friends in a warm and welcoming place regardless of the weather. Our youngest students in Year 7 even get to have lunch by themselves as we continue to make them feel part of the school following their transition from Primary education.

Moving forwards, we think that changing the timings of the school day will help benefit our students even further. Ordinarily, NET academies start school at 8.25am and finish at 2.30pm. The relatively early finish allows students to stay behind after school and enjoy the brilliant enrichment and extra-curricular offer. Students can then walk home safely in the daylight. This change also allows us to better match the teaching timetables of colleagues who can support us at Denton from other NET academies; something we are keen to do, so that even more students can benefit from our specialist subject directors.

Given we have already moved to the structure of the NET school day, the changes required involve sliding the start of the day at Denton Community forwards by 15 minutes. We also hope to reduce tutor time to 20 minutes; meaning the day will finish at 2.30pm as opposed to 3.00pm. The table below and diagram shows the suggested changes:

	<b>Proposed new school day</b>	<b>Current school day</b>
<b>School start time</b>	<b>8.25am</b>	8.40am
<b>School finish time</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	3.00pm



We hope to implement this change from the first day back after the Easter Holidays; which is **Monday 15th April 2024**.

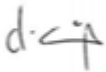
**ACTING HEADTEACHER: Mr D Cumming**

We understand that bringing the end of the school day forward may cause childcare issues for some parents. To remedy this, the school will continue to offer the usual enrichment activities which will allow students to remain on site until 3.30pm if they choose.

If you have any concerns at all, please email school using the following email address, [info@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk](mailto:info@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk) **before 5.00pm on Friday 16th February 2024**. We will then collate any feedback received and write to parents confirming the outcome as soon as possible.

We hope you understand that this pace of change is needed so we can maximise outcomes for children whilst remaining child centred about opportunities and experiences in the school.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D Cumming  
**Acting Headteacher**