

22nd March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing with an update on the School Day consultation that I [wrote to you](#) about earlier in the year. Thank you to all those who shared their views on the proposed changes.

Why are we considering this change?

- This change 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.
- The earlier finish allows students to stay behind after school and enjoy the enrichment and extra-curricular offer more easily than is currently the case.
- We feel the 20 minute tutor time is the right length for these important pastoral sessions - and will be the same as all NET schools.
- Students can walk home safely in the daylight for more of the year.
- It means that Denton staff can benefit from the same after-school training opportunities as all NET staff - your child will then benefit from teachers with even stronger professional skills, leading to better outcomes for your child.

The consultation was opened on the 26th January and ran until the 16th February. We have also consulted with staff, local primary schools, local secondary schools and Tameside about our proposals. We also ran a survey of student views. We had a total of 7 responses to the proposal from parents and carers:

- 2 were in favour of the plans
- 5 had questions or concerns - we have contacted these families directly with individual answers to their questions

As you can see, the number of responses was low. This is not to say that the concerns were small to those who had them, but on balance they did not outweigh the advantages. The Interim Executive Board have

Time	Session
8.20am	First morning bell - time to move to lessons
8.25am	Lesson 1
9.25am	Lesson 2
10.25am	VMG/Break
11.00am	Lesson 3
12.00pm	Lesson 4/Lunch
1.30pm	Lesson 5
2.30pm	Enrichment

reviewed the consultation with school leaders and have agreed to the proposal. As a result, we have agreed to move ahead with the change of the school day from the first day back after Easter, Monday 15th April.

I am letting you know as early as possible and hope that, like so many of the other changes we have made this year as we become aligned with NET, it will soon feel like we have always done things this way and you have the time to make any changes you need to ensure your child arrives on time. We have spoken with the bus companies to ensure that the school transport transitions smoothly too.

We will continue to have the same split break and lunchtimes, ensuring students have the time and space to relax at social times. Our expectations on the equipment students must bring to school remain the same, including key elements such as planners and Need to Know books. Year 7 and 8 must also bring their Reading Routes books and DEAR workbooks. If your child has finished their book please encourage them to exchange it for a new one at our Wednesday Pop Up Library.

We are also moving ahead with an exciting new enrichment timetable and will share this with you shortly. This will include old favourites like D&D club alongside new activities, including a Denton darts club.

Please remember that the earlier starting time will be in place on the first day back after Easter, Monday 15th April. Students should be on site before 8:20am to ensure they get to their lessons on time.

Thank you again for your contributions to the consultation.

Yours faithfully,



Donald Cumming
Acting Headteacher