DRT/JE

13 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

You may be aware that the government’s White Paper from March 2022 set out that, from next academic year (2024-2025), schools must have a minimum core week of 32.5 hours. A core school week is the time from morning registration to the official end of the school day.

We currently fall under this minimum expectation, so we are going to have to extend our school day, from September 2024, to meet government guidelines. During Ofsted inspections, this will form part of the scrutiny and evaluation of the curriculum.

To meet the minimum expectations stated above, we are proposing to make the following minor adjustment to our school day for this September, which is highlighted in yellow below.

**Day Proposal (addition of 15 minutes at the end of the school day)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  08.30am – 09.00am | Line-up, Registration & Morning Meeting |
| 09.00am – 10.00am | Period 1 |
|  10.00am – 11.15am | Period 2 and break |
|  11.15am – 12.15pm | Period 3 |
|  12.15pm – 1.45pm | Period 4 and lunch |
| 1.45pm – 2.45pm | Period 5 |
| 2.45pm – 3.00pm | Afternoon Meeting |

This equates to 6.5 hours per day and 32.5 hours per week, which meets government expectations. We will still be running Breakfast Club before school and Homework Club, extra-curricular activities and Year 11 intervention after school, as well a same-day detentions.

Morning and afternoon meetings are where the year group comes together in a similar way to assembly. There is both a learning and pastoral element to the meetings, allowing us to develop a strong year-group ethos and identity. It also helps us to foster a strong sense of belonging which, in turn, has a positive impact on our environment for learning, creating a place where all children can thrive. Pupils in Year 11 will continue in the current form structure.

**Break Structure (stays the same)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 10.00am – 10.15am | Break 1 |
| 11.00am – 11.15am | Break 2 |

Please note that, for safety reasons, we must have a split break. We could not safely have 1000 children on the yard at the same time.

**Lunch Structure (stays the same)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 12.15pm – 12.45pm | Lunch 1 (2 years groups) |
| 12.45pm – 1.15pm | Lunch 2 (1 year group) |
| 1.15pm – 1.45pm | Lunch 3 (2 year groups) |

Again, for safety reasons, we must operate a split lunch because all pupils must stay on site, and we do not have the capacity in the dining areas for the full school population.

Please submit any feedback on the proposed changes, including the name of your child(ren) and tutor group in the subject box, by 12noon on Wednesday 27 March. schoolday@hebburn.net.

Yours sincerely



Mr D R Thompson

**Head Teacher**