

Monday 21st March 2022

RE: New School Day Proposal: September 2022

St Julian's School's Governing Body is proposing to change the session times of the school day. Adhering to the 2003 Welsh Government Guidance and following consultation with staff, the school is now submitting a statement to the Local Authority to seek permission for proceeding with these changes, including consultation with parents.

Where the phrase 'current school day' is used, this relates to the established school day in use prior to the pandemic (as detailed below).

	8:35	9:00	10:00	11:00	11:20	12:20	13:15	14:00	End
	Tut.	P1	P2	Break	P3	P4	Lunch	P5	15:00
Y7	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4	L	P5	
Y8	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4	L	P5	
Y9	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4	L	P5	
Y10	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4	L	P5	
Y11	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4	L	P5	
P16	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4	L	P5	
LDC	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4 / L	L / P5	P5	14:25

The amended school days which have been used in the past two years have been allowed due to temporary amendments to the Welsh Government's act (The School Years and Session Times, 2003) where schools could change the structure of the school day to mitigate against the spread of Coronavirus.

The pandemic has afforded all schools the opportunities to trial different models. Through this period, it has seen that a safer and more productive day is the model that has been most in use during the academic years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022. It is shown below.

	Social Zones	Arrivals	8:35	9:00	10:00	11:00	11:20	12:20	12:55	13:20	13:55	Departures
		8:20 - 8:35 (Gates)	Tut.	P1	P2	Break	P3	P4 (1hr) Lunch (35 mins)		P5	14:50 - 15:00 (Students to leave via nearest gates)	
Y7	East canteen & yard	East Gate	T	P1	P2	B	P3	L	P4		P5	14:50
Y8	East canteen & yard	East Gate	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4		L	P5	14:50
Y9	West canteen & yard	West Gate	T	P1	P2	B	P3	L	P4		P5	14:55
Y10	West canteen & yard	West Gate	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4		L	P5	14:55
Y11	Jubilee & Aspire	East Gate	T	P1	P2	B	P3	L	P4		P5	15:00
P16	West + Aspire	West Gate	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4		L	P5	15:00
LDC	Side field & Aspire	Rear Yard	T	P1	P2	B	P3	P4	L	P4	P5	14:25

There are three main reasons for the proposal:

- Safeguarding
 - In the current school day (with a single lunch), service in the canteens is very busy and, as a result of all year groups being unable to be served, Years 10 and 11 are allowed off site, typically to the shops on Caerleon Road. This has presented issues within the community and can compromise the safety of students as they are not supervised whilst away from school.
 - The split lunch allows all year groups to remain on site and all students to be served in the three canteens.
 - A single leaving time also poses issues: with 1500 students all leaving together, antisocial behaviour outside school and traffic congestion both raise safeguarding, and health and safety concerns.
 - Staggered leaving times allows for a calm and controlled exit from school and can also assist with the flow of traffic as pick up times differ.
- Improvements in Behaviour During Social Times
 - When operating a single lunch with fewer staff on duty than at break, students' behaviour is often challenging.
 - A split lunch and social zones ensure students' behaviour is well managed, students are adequately supervised and all students can remain on site. Due to this, the school is much calmer and safer.
- Attendance and Punctuality
 - As stated above, a single lunch sees Year 10 and Year 11 being off site for lunch as the canteens cannot cope with service for all year groups. This leads to truancy and / or lateness to Period 5 lessons. Split lunch, with all year groups remaining in site, ensures full attendance and punctuality during Period 5.

Staff consultation was carried out between Monday 7th March and Monday 14th March. Of our 161 staff, 40 of staff responded to the survey. This represents 24.8% of staff. Of this 40, 27 replied via the survey; 13 replied anonymously via the NASUWT. Of this last group, where it was clear that they had also responded via the survey, their response was only counted once. 121 colleagues did not respond so are assumed to support the proposal (or do not oppose the proposal). 67.5% of those who submitted a response support the proposal. 91.9% of all colleagues support the proposal.

The school plans to write to all parents next week (w/b 28th March) to share this proposal and seek their views. Parents will be able to submit their view via a survey and will have the opportunity to attend a scheduled meeting via Teams at 16:30 on Monday 4th April. The Leadership Team will then consider all views, including those of the Local Authority, and possibly amend the proposal for consideration by the Governing Body. A final decision will then be made by the Governing Body on Wednesday 4th May with parents being informed on Friday 6th May 2020, four months ahead of school returning in September. .

If you have any comments or queries regarding our proposal, please do not hesitate to contact me via telephone or email.



Dean Curtis

Headteacher on behalf of St Julian's School's Governing Body