

Friday 21st July 2023

Dear parents and carers,

End of 2022-23 academic year and start of 2023-24

I am writing to thank you for your continued support as the 2022/23 academic year draws to a close. We have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating our 50th anniversary and we now look forward to our 51st year as a school.

With exams completed in year 11 and 13, we have been able to enjoy a number of other events across the school. Our year 10 students have undertaken work experience, which provides an excellent opportunity to learn about the world of work and life beyond the school gates. A group of Year 9 students completed their final expedition for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Our recent Achievement Evening provided an opportunity to welcome nearly 200 parents and carers to see their children collect awards for personal development and academic achievement. We also enjoyed our Summer Fair on Saturday 15th July when we welcomed local residents and families into school. Students and staff enjoyed friendly competition on Sports Day this week, and we held our Summer Concert last night which was a great display of students' talents.

5 period school day

Having consulted both students and staff, we will be making some changes to the structure to the school day for 2023/24.

The academy currently runs a 6 x 50-minute model. From September, we will move to a 5 x 60-minute model. Learning time remains unchanged but we believe the new system provides us with greater benefits in terms of curriculum planning.

Start	End	Year groups 7 & 9	Year groups 8, 10 & 11
8.35	8.55	Tutor	
8.55	10.00	Period 1	
10.00	10.15	Break	Period 2
10.15	11.05	Period 2	
11.05	11.20	Break	
11.20	12.25	Period 3	
12.25	12.55	Lunch	Period 4
12.55	1.30	Period 4	
1.30	2.00	Lunch	
2.00	3.05	Period 5	

5 minutes later start than current timings

Same time finish

For some of our students travelling greater distances to school, the additional 5 minutes morning travel time will be beneficial. The academy will continue to open its doors from 8.00am for students to access the canteen for breakfast. The new timetable structure will continue to meet government expectations for a 32.5-hour school week.

Students' return to school in September

In September, new year 7 students' first day is **Monday 4th September 2023**. They will be participating in welcome activities so that they can begin to navigate secondary school. New year 12 students also return on this day.

All students then return to the academy on **Tuesday 5th September 2023**.

I hope you all enjoy the summer break and have a safe and restful holiday.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Turner', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr C Turner
Headteacher