

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE SCHOOL WEEK

Mrs Kay Remmer
25th March 2019



Proposed Timetable Adjustments for September 2019

School will end at 1.30 p.m. on Friday to allow all teachers to participate in PPA and to facilitate training opportunities for HLTA and LSA staff, which will facilitate consistency in teaching across the week, improving standards.

For working parents or parents in full time education, childcare will be offered on a Friday afternoon.

Changing the Length of the School Day

Section 2 of DfE guidance “School attendance, Guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools and local authorities” November 2016, states the following:

‘Every school day must have two sessions divided by a break. The length of each session, break and the school day is determined by the school’s governing body. The governing body has the power to revise the length of the school day as it sees fit. There is no requirement to consult parents on revisions to the school day but it can assist parents to do so.’

The Length of the school Day

House of Commons Briefing Paper briefing Paper Number 07148, 16 March 2016 'The School Day and Year (England)' states that: 'The head teacher of a maintained school will recommend the length of a school day, including session times and breaks. The governing body must agree the recommendation.'

DfE Circular 7/90 sets out the following suggested minimum weekly teaching times as a guide for schools:

Age 5-7	21 hours
Age 8-11	23.5 hours

There is no statutory minimum time for the length of the school day.

Proposed timetable for Reception & Y1

	8.50 to 11.45	11.45 to 12.30	12.30 to 3.15
Mon	2hr 55mins	lunch	2hrs 45 mins
Tues	2hr 55mins		2hrs 45 mins
Wed	2hr 55mins		2hrs 45 mins
Thurs	2hr 55mins		2hrs 45 mins
Fri	2hr 55mins		2hrs 45 mins
total	14hrs 35 mins		13hrs 45 mins
School total			28 hrs 20 mins
DfE minimum weekly teaching times guidance			21 hrs
Proposed school total, if closing at 1.30 on Friday (loss of 1 hr 45 mins) and discounting assembly times (1 hr 15 mns)			25 hrs 25mins

Proposed timetable for Y2

	8.50 to 10.30	10.30 to 10.45	10.45 to 11.45	11.45 to 12.30	12.30 to 2.00	2.00 to 2.15	2.15 to 3.15
Mon	1hr 40 mins	break	1 hr	lunch	1 hr 30 mins	break	1 hr
Tues	1hr 40 mins		1 hr		1 hr 30 mins		1 hr
Wed	1hr 40 mins		1 hr		1 hr 30 mins		1 hr
Thurs	1hr 40 mins		1 hr		1 hr 30 mins		1 hr
Fri	1hr 40 mins		1 hr		1 hr 30 mins		1 hr
total	8hrs 20 mins		5 hrs		7hrs 30 mins		5 hrs
School total							25 hrs & 50 mins
DfE minimum weekly teaching times guidance							21 hrs
Proposed school total, if closing at 1.30 on Friday (loss of 1 hr 45 mins) and discounting assembly times (1 hr 15 mns)							22hrs 50 mins

Proposed timetable for Y3 & 4

	8.50 to 10.30	10.30 to 10.45	10.45 to 11.45	11.45 to 12.30	12.30 to 3.15
Mon	1hr 40 mins	break	1 hr	lunch	2hrs 45 mins
Tues	1hr 40 mins		1 hr		2hrs 45 mins
Wed	1hr 40 mins		1 hr		2hrs 45 mins
Thurs	1hr 40 mins		1 hr		2hrs 45 mins
Fri	1hr 40 mins		1 hr		2hrs 45 mins
total	8hrs 20 mins		5 hrs		13hrs 45 mins
School total					27 hrs & 5 mins
DfE minimum weekly teaching times guidance					23 hrs 30 mins
Proposed school total, if closing at 1.30 on Friday (loss of 1 hr 45 mins) and discounting assembly times (1 hr 15 mns)					24 hrs 05 mins

Proposed timetable for Y5 & 6

	8.50 to 11.45	10.30 to 10.45	11 to 12.15	11.45 to 12.30	1.00 to 3.15
Mon	1hr 55 mins	break	1 hr 15 mins	lunch	2hrs 15 mins
Tues	1hr 55 mins		1 hr 15 mins		2hrs 15 mins
Wed	1hr 55 mins		1 hr 15 mins		2hrs 15 mins
Thurs	1hr 55 mins		1 hr 15 mins		2hrs 15 mins
Fri	1hr 55 mins		1 hr 15 mins		2hrs 15 mins
total	9hrs 35mins		6hrs 15 mins		11hrs 15 mins
School total					27 hrs & 5 mins
DfE minimum weekly teaching times guidance					23 hrs 30 mins
Proposed school total, if closing at 1.30 on Friday (loss of 1 hr 45 mins) and discounting assembly times (1 hr 15 mns)					24 hrs 05 mins

Timetable for Nursery

Nursery will remain unaffected by the proposal, offering 30 hour places across the week, as well as the usual morning and afternoon places.

School will end at 1.30 p.m. on Friday to allow all teachers to participate in PPA.

~~As you may be aware, schools must provide all class teachers with time to do their planning, preparation and assessment (PPA). This is their statutory right. For a full time teacher, this is roughly equivalent to half a day out of class a week. This means that currently, your child is not taught by their own class teacher for half a day a week. The PPA timetable runs across the week with teachers in each year group released on different days of the week. Some staff have their PPA during the morning, which is core learning time for the children. Having PPA time on a Friday afternoon for everyone would mean that the children would have their own teacher throughout their time in school each week, leading to greater consistency in learning and teaching.~~

It will also mean that the HLTAS we now employ to cover PPA, could be deployed to year groups, as a permanent member of the year group team, working across the year group to conduct intervention groups and pick up misconceptions.

For working parents or parents in full time education, childcare will be offered on a Friday afternoon. **Extra-Curricular Friday Club (at no cost).**

Supply costs within school

St Matthew's budget on supply has been traditionally very high:

£81,658.13 - 2016/17

£82,103.65 - 2017/18

£32,477.57 - 2018/19

Removing HLTAS from PPA cover will dramatically improve school's ability to cover internally when staff are absent through illness or on training etc.

Feedback Received From Teachers So Far

I am looking forward to being able to teach all subjects to my class and not hand over something to the HLTAs to teach during PPA.

My PPA will no longer be on a morning, during core learning time.

I feel the behaviour in my class will improve as I will have total responsibility for it.

It will be great for all teachers to have PPA together – we will be able to access training together.

I will be able to have my PPA in the classroom and have better access to my resources, to help me prepare better lessons for my class.

Feedback Received From Parents So Far

I am definitely in... I want my child to have the same teacher across the week, and if that means more training time for teachers so be it.

I am in favour and feel it will be a positive move.

If it enables staff to be better equipped to teach my children then it is for the greater good in the long run.

Additional support in class is always a good thing.

I'm in favour. I know other schools close at 1.30pm

Happy that after school provision will be provided.

Feedback Received From Parents So Far(parents agreeing with some reservations)

Friday Prayers may cause an issue for collection. Perhaps Wednesday would be better.

Other schools close at 1.30 so traffic may be bad.

Feedback Received From Parents So Far(parents disagreeing)

We are working parents and couldn't pick up at that time.

Where will lost time be made up?

CPD should be completed in employees own time.

Children need full time education, not part time.

Schools must be open for 380 sessions/190 days a year.

Longer days can mean schools have more time to work with pupils who need additional help.

Guarantee that staff hours are secure?

Won't HLTAs be teaching whole classes any more?

Teachers get enough time off.

If children stay in school longer, they will learn more.

They will have to catch up the work in the rest of the week, which may exhaust the children.