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10 April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Proposal to change the length of the school day

I am writing to inform you of proposed changes to the structure of the school day within the Secondary & Sixth Form phase of the school. The proposal is to change the working day at Waverley School for Secondary & Sixth Form students from 08:25AM to 03:15PM to the following start and end times:

Start time: 08:25 AM (no change)
End time: 03:00 PM

These changes are proposed to take effect from **Monday 2 June 2025**, when the school moves to the new academic year after May half-term. These changes do not affect students within Waverley Primary School whose start and end time will remain as 08:40AM – 03:05PM.

This will mean that students in Years 7 – 13 will finish school fifteen minutes earlier than they do currently. There is no change to the start time for the school.

Students who participate in after-school clubs/activities will continue to be able to do so at an earlier start and finish time. Details of the start and end times will be communicated by the member of staff leading the after-school club/activity.

The school will continue to meet the Department for Education's minimum expectation of a 32.5-hour school week.

The school has obtained confirmation that there will be no impact on the arrangements for those students who use transport provided by Birmingham City Council who will continue to be picked up at 02:45PM.

Why are we seeking to make this change?

The extended school day was originally put in place to provide enough time for a rolling/staggered lunch break, with each year group having lunch one at a time. This meant that the third lesson of the day had to be two hours long. We consider that this can be disruptive to

learning, particularly for those students who are interrupted mid-way through the lesson to go to their lunch break.

Over the past two years, the school has been improving the capacity within the canteen and the outdoor facilities to accommodate more students having lunch at the same time. We no longer have a rolling/staggered lunch break, which means that we no longer need to have an extended lesson in the middle of the day.

Instead, it is proposed that students will follow this timetable:

	Start	End
Line up	08:25	08:30
Form time	08:30	09:15
Period 1	09:15	10:15
Period 2 (inc. 15 min break)	10:15	11:30
Period 3	11:30	12:30
Period 4 (inc. 30 min lunch)	12:30	14:00
Period 5	14:00	15:00

We believe that these changes will be beneficial to our school community and will have a positive effect on your child's education. This is because:

- each lesson will be 1 hour in length.
- break and lunch times will take place at the beginning or the end of a lesson, so that learning is uninterrupted.
- our form-time will be extended to 45 minutes from 30 minutes. We believe that this is an important feature of our school day, offering your child more contact with a consistent adult providing pastoral and academic support each morning. This will also provide time for the school to lead intervention for students, for example additional reading and literacy classes.
- students who collect siblings from the Primary school will now be able to do so at the correct time as they will leave the Secondary/Sixth Form site at 03.00PM.

In addition, we do not consider that this proposal would have a disproportionate or negative impact on those with protected characteristics¹.

I appreciate that these changes may affect you with respect to childcare and/or working arrangements, and you may have questions as to how and why this is being implemented. For

¹ The protected characteristics are disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

this reason, I would like to invite you to please share any feedback or concerns by e-mailing enquiry@waverley.bham.sch.uk.

We would also like to invite you to a parent/carer forum taking place on **Tuesday 6 May 2025 at 15:30PM where you will be able to meet with senior leaders and discuss any questions you may have.**

The consultation will finish on **Thursday 15 May 2025**. We will share the outcome of the consultation process on **Monday 19 May 2025**.

Yours sincerely,



Hugh Derry
Principal
Waverley School – Secondary & Sixth Form