

February 2024

Dear families

Changes to the academy day

As part of our evolution at Dixons McMillan and having worked the current timetable for a number of years, we are keen to improve and refine the structure of the day. With this in mind, and to maximise learning opportunities and to continue to provide an exceptional education to every child that attends Dixons McMillan, we are proposing to change the length of the academy day. Whilst we do not do things for OFSTED, we also wish to explicitly address the area for improvement recognised in our most recent report, regarding KS4 pupils accessing extra-curricular activities.

Proposed Changes

The school day will continue to start at 8:00am for all students, with line up starting at 7:59am and hands up for silence at 8:02. The school day will finish at **3:10pm** Monday – Friday inclusive.

This proposal means that we will shorten the day on Monday – Wednesday from the current finish time of 4:00pm and we will slightly increase the academy day on a Thursday – Friday from the current time of 3:00pm.

The reason we wish to change the academy day is to provide a more standardised day for students across the week. We have listened to our students, who tell us that the academy day is too long Monday – Wednesday, and that they find this hard to manage, particularly alongside their homework and any other out of school commitments they might have.

By shortening the day, we will remove Prep (for KS4) and Elective (for KS3) from the school day. This means that we will be able to offer a much wider range of extra-curricular activities for both KS3 and KS4 after school, and there will be a choice of clubs for students to join after school that will run until 4:00pm every day. We will also offer KS4 interventions after school, meaning we can provide timely tuition for both Year 10 and Year 11 students in preparation for their GCSE exams.

Impact on Trinity Road

We have worked closely with the Principal of Dixons Trinity Academy and Dixons Music Primary when considering our changes. Whilst they are also proposing changes to their days, we have kept our commitment to different end times to support minimising the traffic and congestion. At Dixons McMillan, we will also continue to use our drop off and pick up zone on Laisteridge Lane.

Should the changes be approved, they will come into force from **27 August 2024** for the new academic year.

We believe that these changes will be beneficial to the school community and will have a positive effect on your child's education. To listen to the views of our community, we are offering you the opportunity to provide feedback and respond to the proposal. Feedback, comments, or suggestions can be sent shared by completing the following online form: <https://forms.office.com/e/Vx8LVzucDZ> The feedback window will close on **Friday 8 March**. Following the closure of the feedback window, we will review and consider all responses before finally reaching a decision. This decision will be communicated to all families by the end of week commencing 18 March 2024.

Yours faithfully



Kat Lang
Principal

