

CHT/KCR

May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

FURTHER CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL DAY FROM SEPTEMBER 2022

I am writing to let you know about changes we intend to make to the school day from September 2022.

These changes are set out below, along with what they will mean and the reasons for making them (**a copy of the new School Day schedule is attached**).

Changes to school day

Key Stage 3

Year 7	Current day: 9.00 am – 3.15 pm	Proposed day: 8.30 am – 3.00 pm
Year 8	Current day: 8.30 am – 2.30 pm	Proposed day: 8.30 am – 3.00 pm
Year 9	Current day: 8.15 am – 2.15 pm	Proposed day: 8.30 am – 3.00 pm

Key Stage 4

Year 10	Current day: 9.30 am – 3.30 pm	Proposed day: 8.50 am – 3.20 pm
Year 11	Current day: 9.30 am – 3.30 pm	Proposed day: 8.50 am – 3.20 pm

(Please note: the current Year 11 is on an adapted school day for Covid recovery).

These changes will mean:

- There are now only two start and finish times for students – one for KS3 students and one for KS4 students. This is a reduction from the current four start and finish times, and so greatly simplifies the day for students, staff and parents/carers.
- The length of the school day increases by 30 minutes, meaning the school week will now be 32.5 hours, rather than the current 30 hours.
- Each lesson becomes 5 minutes longer, increasing from 1 hour to 1 hour and 5 minutes in length.
- In Years 8-11, form period increases by 5 minutes, to 20 minutes a day. (In Year 7, form period will be reduced, so that it will also now be 20 minutes.)
- Year 7 lunch time increases by 5 minutes, from 30 minutes to 35 minutes. All other lunch times will remain at 30 minutes.

Why change the school day?

Our school day is currently overly complicated, with 4 staggered start and finish times. Altering the school day will enable us to increase learning time, whilst reducing the amount of time students are moving around college. This will release staff from duties, giving them more time to support your child with their academic and social development.

Why change the length of lessons?

Students currently have 5 lessons a day, each lasting 1 hour. Moving to lessons of 1 hour 5 minutes will mean an extra 25 minutes of learning time a day, or an extra 2 hours 5 minutes learning time a week, giving your child more opportunities to practise skills and deepen their understanding of key ideas and concepts. We believe this will help them to be even more successful by the time they leave college and pursue their post-16 choices.

Breakfast

The college will still be open from 8.00 am for all year groups, so that your child can come and have breakfast if they would like to. Free breakfast options will remain available.

Break and Lunchtime

There will be no change to the length of breaks and lunchtimes, except for Year 7 who will have an extra 5 minutes at lunchtime. What will be better, is that each year group will begin their lunchtime 25 minutes earlier than with the current model. We will continue with the current arrangements of staggered breaks and lunchtimes.

Form Tutor

The structure of the new school day will mean that there are no lessons on at the same time as form period. As a result, your child should be able to have the same form tutor every day and their form tutor may be able to stay with them as they move up through college. This will further strengthen the pastoral care we provide for students and the relationships built between home and college.

Buses

We are working with service operators and SYPTTE to re-schedule timetables for both the 478 (Smithies - Horizon) and 479 (Kendray - Horizon) bus services. Updated service timetables will be published and shared with parents/carers in the coming weeks.

Summary

In summary, we believe that changing the school day will enable us to:

- Further improve the quality of learning for students
- Provide them with even better support and care
- Ensure a more cohesive college community
- Continue to develop the strong and positive relationships between college and home and make life easier for parents with a child in more than one school year

We have already consulted with governors and staff. If you, as parents and carers, would now like to comment on this proposal, please email me via info@horizoncc.co.uk by 12.00 pm on Friday 27th May. I will then confirm arrangements for September with all stakeholders in June.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Huddart - Principal

School Week

Compulsory School hours

KS3 (7-9) - 32 hours 30 minutes
 Official hours:
 8:30am - 15:00pm.

KS4 (10-11) - 32 hours 30 minutes
 Official hours:
 8:50am - 15:20pm

In addition, we also offer Breakfast and Enrichment/Intervention for all students, which is non-compulsory.

	8:00	8:30	8:50	9:05	9:20	9:35	9:55	10:10	10:25	10:40	11:00	11:15	11:30	11:45	12:00	12:20	12:35	12:50	13:05	13:25	13:40	13:55	14:10	14:25	14:40	15:00	15:20	16:00	16:20
Year 7	BREAKFAST - FREE OPTIONS AVAILABLE		Form (AM Mark)		1			2			Break		3			(PM Mark)	4	Lunch		4		5							
			Form (AM Mark)		1		Break		2				3			Lunch		(PM Mark)	4		4		5						
Year 8			Form (AM Mark)		1		Break		2				3			Lunch		(PM Mark)	4		4		5						
			Form (AM Mark)		1		Break		2				3			Lunch		(PM Mark)	4		4		5						
Year 9			Form (AM Mark)		1		Break		2				3			Lunch		(PM Mark)	4		4		5						
			Form (AM Mark)		1		Break		2				3			Lunch		(PM Mark)	4		4		5						
Year 10		(AM Mark)			1			2			Break		3			(PM Mark)	4			Lunch		5				Form			
					1			2			Break		3			(PM Mark)	4			Lunch		5				Form			
Year 11		(AM Mark)			1			2			Break		3			(PM Mark)	4			Lunch		5			Form				
					1			2			Break		3			(PM Mark)	4			Lunch		5			Form				
																										Enrichment/Intervention On a Monday, Wednesday & Thursday			