



All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy

Head Teacher: C Cuomo

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“We shall serve.”

Mark 10:45 - *“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

11th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you of a proposed change to the structure of the school day here at All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy. We would like to reduce the length of the school day by ten minutes. This adjustment comes in light of recent discussions and considerations regarding the well-being and effectiveness of our students' learning experience.

The government has recommended a minimum of 32.5 hours of education per week. To ensure compliance, we have thoroughly evaluated our current schedule and believe that a reduction in the school day duration is not only feasible but also beneficial. By reducing ten minutes from the school day, we aim to strike a balance between meeting educational requirements and promoting the well-being of our students.

Here are some reasons why this change may be important to both parents/carers and students:

- **Increased Flexibility:** A slightly shorter school day can provide students with more flexibility in managing their time outside of school. This can be particularly beneficial for those who engage in extracurricular activities at school or require additional time for personal commitments.
- **Reduced Fatigue:** Long school days can contribute to student fatigue, potentially affecting their ability to concentrate and retain information effectively. By shortening the school day, we aim to alleviate some of this fatigue, allowing students to remain more alert and engaged during class hours.
- **Improved Work-Life Balance:** For parents and carers, a reduction in the school day duration can ease the pressures associated with managing childcare arrangements and work commitments. Ten fewer minutes may seem minor, but it can make a significant difference in balancing family responsibilities and professional obligations.
- **Enhanced Well-being:** Research suggests that shorter school days can positively impact students' overall well-being by providing them with more time for rest, relaxation, and social activities. This, in turn, can contribute to their mental and emotional health, ultimately fostering a more positive learning environment.

If, following consultation, we decide to proceed with this change, the revised school day schedule would be as follows:

Gates open from: 8.15am

Lessons start: 8.55am

Finish time: 3.25pm

"Leaders have high expectations of all. Pupils, including Sixth Form students, respond well to this challenge. They are determined to succeed."

We understand that any adjustment to the school day may have implications for individual families, particularly regarding childcare arrangements and work schedules. Therefore, we urge you to share your feedback and concerns via the Microsoft form <https://forms.office.com/e/4pNRyhWDGc>.

The information in this letter has also been sent to the school bus company, our staff and governors. We will work together so that there is minimal disruption.

The consultation period will close at midday on Friday 22nd March. All feedback received will be carefully considered by the Local Governing Body before a final decision is made. The revised school day schedule would come into effect from 1st September 2024. We are committed to keeping you informed throughout this process and will ensure that all parents, carers, and stakeholders are notified of the outcome at the conclusion of the consultation.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation as we strive to enhance the educational experience for all our students.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Cuomo'.

Carlo Cuomo
Head Teacher