

Wednesday, 29 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

In March 2022 the Department for Education announced all state-funded mainstream schools are expected to deliver a school week of at least 32.5 hours (6.5 hours a day) by September 2023. Whilst this legislation has not yet been formalised in parliament, we do expect it to go ahead and we want to ensure that we are well prepared. Our local Infant schools current school day falls short of the proposed 32.5 hours a week and as a result we have had to carefully consider the options available to meet government expectations in collaboration with Arden Grove and Heather Avenue Infant School.

We want to minimise any disruption to pupils and parents this may cause and we have concluded that to achieve this we will slightly extend the start and end of the school day.

The table below shows the current timings and the proposed changes from September 2023 which we have discussed with the Wensum Trust and the school's Local Advisory Board.

Current Primary School Day

Session Start	Session Finish
8:45am	3:15pm

Proposed Primary School Day

Session Start	Session Finish
8:30am	3:00pm

We are aware a similar consultation has been carried out by Hellesdon High School and we will be working with them, along with The Wensum Trust, to ensure our start and end times complement each other in order to support parents and carers travelling between our schools to drop off and collect children.

Before we implement these timings, we would like to consult with parents to hear any thoughts you may have on what we are proposing. We will be holding a consultation event at Firside Junior School on Thursday 20 April between 3:30pm and 4:00pm for you to come along and discuss the plans.

For those of you who cannot attend the event, you can also provide feedback via this short form.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfp9njGvDYRE7Zxp0bG0PlouEXdCeBQIojlz2qDO3GtRY0UHw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfp9njGvDYRE7Zxp0bG0PlouEXdCeBQIojlz2qDO3GtRY0UHw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

We are part of...





**Firsides Junior School**  
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The closing date for the consultation period is 26 April 2023.

Once this consultation period has ended, and the school has made a final decision on the new timings of the school day from September 2023, we will contact parents again to confirm the arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Robinson

Headteacher

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