

Ref: TTR/awl

26 May 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Changes to Times of the Day from September 2017 and Road Safety Improvements

You will no doubt be aware of the funding pressures on public services and education is no exception. Schools have experienced ongoing budget cuts and whilst finances at Wilmington Academy are in good shape, we do have to manage them very carefully going forwards to make sure that we can sustain the good quality education that parents/carers expect and our students deserve.

Attached to this letter you will find our proposals from September 2017, which conform with government guidelines regarding the recommended number of teaching hours per week. This has been approved by the Board of Governors and Leigh Academies Trust Executive.

We have noted that the demographic of the academy has changed significantly over the past few years, with many more students staying behind after school for extra-curricular activities and study support. We propose to increase this provision from September with a notional period 6. Please note that students in year 11 from September 2017 will finish at 3.30pm on Mondays and Tuesdays to ensure that they complete their English and Combined Science GCSE courses but this will be for one year only. All other years will finish at 3pm.

I have spoken to Arriva Buses who have agreed to pick up at 3.30pm daily with the exception of Wednesdays when the shuttle bus service will remain unchanged. This means that the majority of students who walk to and from school can leave the site before the buses and coaches (for the grammar schools) arrive thus enhancing pedestrian safety. It will also give parents/carers who wish to pick up after school more time/space to do so, although we would expect this to be completed by 3.20pm. The 601 bus service will continue to arrive at 3.30pm for those students who use this service. Students can work on the plazas or sit in the dining room/purchase refreshments as they currently do when waiting for buses.

We have been working closely with Kent County Council and I am pleased to report that the upgraded footpath from Tredegar Road leading to the academy car park is now complete. The gate leading to the car park will be open from 8am – 9am daily and 3.30pm – 4pm except Wednesdays when it will be open between 2pm – 2.30pm to keep students away from Common Lane. Construction of an additional bus lane will commence in front of the academy building next week. It will take about 4 weeks to complete and this should help the traffic flow.

Senior Leaders will be available at the next Parents' Forum on 27 June at 6pm in the LRC/library should you wish to raise any questions.

In the meantime, I wish you all a pleasant mid-term break and thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Trusler'.

Tracey Trusler
Principal

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Period 1	8.40 - 9.40	1 hour
Period 2	9.40-10.40	1 hour
Form Time/Break	10.40 - 11.05	25 minutes
Break/Form Time	11.05 - 11.30	25 minutes
Period 3	11.30 - 12.30	1 hour
Period 4 - lunch 1	12.30 - 1pm	30 minutes
Period 4 - lunch 2	1 - 1.30 pm	30 minutes
Period 4 - lunch 3	1.30 - 2pm	30 minutes
Period 5	2 - 3pm	1 hour
Period 6 extra-curricular/interventions	3-4pm	

Wednesday

Period 1	8.40 - 9.40	1 hour
Period 2	9.40-10.40	1 hour
Form time/break	10.40 - 11.05	25 minutes
Break/Form Time	11.05 - 11.30	25 minutes
Period 3	11.30 - 12.30	1 hour
Period 4 - lunch 1	12.30 - 1pm	30 minutes
Period 4 - lunch 2	1 - 1.30 pm	30 minutes
Period 4 - lunch 3	1.30 - 2pm	30 minutes