

29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## THE QUEEN ELIZABETH ACADEMY CONSULTATION WITH PARENTS/CARERS REGARDING CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL DAY FROM SEPTEMBER 2021

We are seeking the views of the **Parents/Carers** with regard to proposed changes to the school day at The Queen Elizabeth Academy.

Our proposal is that from September 2021 TQEA will operate the following school day:

### Monday – Thursday

8:45 am – 9:05 pm – Registration  
9:05 am – 10:10 am – Period 1  
10:10 am – 11:15 am – Period 2  
11:15 am – 11:30 am – Break  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm – Period 3  
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm – Period 4  
1:30 pm – 2:05 pm – Lunch  
2:05 pm – 3:05 pm – Period 5

### Friday

8:45 am – 9:05 am – Registration  
9:05 am – 10:00 am – Period 1  
10:00 am – 10:55 am – Period 2  
10:55 am – 11:10 am – Break  
11:10 am – 12:00 pm – Period 3  
12:00 pm – 12:50 pm – Period 4  
12:50 pm – 1:25 pm – Lunch  
1:25 pm – 2:15 pm – Period 5

### Purpose:

- The earlier finish on Friday for students would allow staff to undertake the regular professional training required to ensure that they can deliver an outstanding education to TQEA students.
- It would give staff the opportunities to develop and plan an exciting and purposeful curriculum for all TQEA students, which enhances the learning of knowledge and the development of skills. These skills would also help to develop employability for TQEA students as well as their academic outcomes.
- Qualitative evidence indicates that student learning and focus is weaker on Fridays and the shorter lessons and shorter day reflects this.

## The Changes:

- With the model proposed students would finish school on Friday at 2:15pm each week. This is 50 minutes earlier than our current model.
- As mentioned in purpose this would allow colleagues to develop their professional training, collaboration and skills to support outstanding teaching and learning at TQEA.
- With the proposed model there is no loss of teaching time.
- School starts at the same time each morning, as it does now, to ensure that there is no impact on family arrangements in the morning.
- To ensure that no teaching time is lost in the week, break and lunch have been reduced by 5 minutes. Lunch will be 35 minutes on each day (our studies show that all students can be served and can eat in this time using the three servery stations) and break will be 15 minutes per day.
- On Monday – Thursday lessons during Period 1 and 2 are 1 hour and 5 minutes in length with Periods 3 – 5 remaining at one hour. This reflects the qualitative evidence that student attention and focus is stronger in the mornings and, therefore, that learning is better.
- On Friday – Period 1 and 2 are 55 minutes in length with lessons being 50 minutes from Period 3-5 which supports evidence that student focus is not as strong as the end of the week.
- Bus companies and taxi firms would be contacted and we would ensure that all students could be collected on Friday with the new finish time in mind.

Please return your thoughts and comments to [info@tqea.org.uk](mailto:info@tqea.org.uk).

Consultation closes on Friday February 5<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Harding', with a stylized flourish extending from the bottom right.

Neil Harding  
Principal  
The Queen Elizabeth Academy