



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST



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7 June 2024

**Primary – Consultation on Change to the School Day
Reception Year to Year 6**

Dear Parent/Carer

I write to you to launch a consultation on changing the school day.

This consultation, although not statutory, will allow any parent/carer to express any views or concerns that they may have with this change.

Proposed Change to school day

	Current Time	Proposed Time
End of morning session – start of lunch (Years 1 – 6)	12.00pm	12.10pm
End of morning session – start of lunch (EYFS)	11:45am	11:55am

Under this change, there would be an additional ten minutes of learning time in the school day which would bring the total to 5hrs and 25mins which is in line with our other Trust Primary Schools and the national average.

Rationale for change

Since the changes to the school day that were made during Covid, we have not reviewed the length of our school day. This change will bring Penshurst into line with most other schools and ensure that our children can maximise their learning and development in school.

Lunch will be shortened by ten minutes. However, a fifty-minute lunch period is more than sufficient for all pupils to eat, socialise and exercise and is still in line with the national average.

The additional ten minutes will be used for a variety of purposes, including additional teaching time as well as providing us with a slot for year group or whole school assemblies, allowing us to come together as a school community.

The placement of the additional ten minutes also means that there are no changes to the start and end of the day, which we know can cause families difficulties when organising school drop offs across more than one school or childcare provider.

Following this consultation, we expect this change will take effect from 1 September 2024.

Start of the Day

We will also be making some slight changes to the start of the day with the expectation that all pupils are on site by 8.40am. This is not a change to the school day which still begins at 8.40am; however, we will be opening the school gates at 8.35am each day to enable all pupils to be inside their classrooms for the start of the day at 8.40am.

To enable families to get used to this slight change, we will begin opening the school gates earlier, from Monday 24 June.

If you have any views or concerns regarding this proposed change or would like to ask any questions, please contact us on office@hessleacademy.com **This consultation period will close on Friday 5 July at 3pm.**

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'V Groak', written in a cursive style.

Mr V Groak
Headteacher