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'Placing learning at the heart of everything we do'

Changes to the School Day – September 2022

13 July 2022

Dear Parents

In light of both hopefully starting to leave the Covid hangover behind and the recommendations provided in a recent Government White Paper, we have reviewed our timings for September 22.

'The white paper Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers for your child sets an expectation that all state-funded mainstream schools will deliver a minimum length of school week of 32.5 hours as soon as they can, and from September 2023 at the latest. This will bring those schools that are under the current average up to the minimum expectation of 32.5 hours, which most schools already deliver.'

'The 32.5 hour minimum expectation includes the time in each day from the official start of the school day (i.e. morning registration) to the official end to the compulsory school day (i.e. official home time). The 32.5 hour minimum includes breaks and lunch times as well as teaching time and any extra-curricular activities that all pupils are expected to attend. It does not include optional before or after school provision'

We have been delivering this across KS2 for many years, however, in light of this recommendation we will need to tweak our KS1 timings. At Priestley, we do not see the point in waiting until September 2023, so we will make this happen from September 2022, ensuring all of the children receive the recommended time.

Therefore, from September 2022 the times will be as follows

Every pupil/every class will start at 8.30am.

EYFS pupils will finish at 3.00pm

All KS1 & KS2 pupils/classes will finish at 3.10pm

However, with the school reverting back to a whole school start time we do need to be mindful of our neighbours. When dropping off and picking up, please 'think things through' and park responsibly being respectful of the local community.

It is also important to note that the school playground gates will not open until 8.20am each morning, therefore we will not be expecting children entering the school site or gathering outside it before this time.

Yours sincerely

A Marsh-Ballard

Mr Marsh-Ballard
Headteacher