



St. Ninian's HIGH SCHOOL

Scoil Ard Noo Ninian

LOWER SCHOOL (Years 7 – 9)

Heywood Avenue, Onchan

Isle of Man, IM3 3AR

+44 (0) 1624 648900

UPPER SCHOOL (Years 10 – 13)

Ballaquayle Road, Douglas

Isle of Man, IM2 5RA

+44 (0) 1624 648800

WWW.SNHS.IM

Our Ref: CJC/SM/

3rd May 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Consultation on the Change of Timings of the School Day

Further to the letter dated 1st March 2024, I write to provide an update following the recent consultation regarding a change to our school day timings.

Our rationale for the change is to:

- Accommodate changes in the delivery of PSHE/RSE in light of the recommendations made in the recent DESC PSHE/RSE Review.
- Create a weekly tutorial lesson with a dedicated form tutor.
- Create greater opportunities for enrichment clubs and independent study for students at the end of the school day.

We have greatly appreciated the feedback from those that have responded. I can report that the majority of parents, staff and students that chose to respond to the survey are in favour of the change. After careful consideration of all feedback received, I can confirm that the proposed changes to the school day timings will take effect from September 2024.

Following some of the feedback received, we are also planning to provide opportunities, support and supervised spaces for students both before and after the new compulsory school day timings. We hope that all will welcome this. A summary of timings for next academic year have been included at the end of this letter.

The feedback has been positive overall; however, there have understandably been some queries that I have tried to address within the table over page. If a parent/guardian has a more specific query that they may require further support with, please do reach out to us by emailing SNHSenquiries@sch.im

Continued...

Live to Learn
Learn to Live

Will the changes have any effect on those students who access UCM for part of their timetable?	<i>No, those students who follow courses at UCM will continue to do so – the change in timings of the school day will not impact this arrangement,</i>
The earlier finish time will make things more difficult for those parents who do not finish work until later and currently pick up or supervise their children after school?	<i>Whilst the compulsory school day will finish at 3pm, there will be supervised study spaces in school as well as other enrichment opportunities taking place in school until 4pm so students can access these if required or if they wish to.</i>
What provisions will be put in place to support students each day without the daily tutorial time?	<i>Our school will have recruited a larger team of pastoral support staff who will be on site from 8.15am and will be available to help and support students prior to the school day commencing at 8.45am. There may also be some targeted support session with some students at this time.</i>
Is the shortened 50 minute lunch break sufficient time for all students to be able to access the canteen?	<i>Yes, both canteens are able to serve all students and for them to have time to eat their lunch within the 50 minute lunch session.</i>
What extra-curricular clubs and opportunities will be in place after school?	<i>After the compulsory school day, we plan to offer enrichment opportunities after school that will run until 4pm. These may include supervised independent study areas on both school sites; voluntary subject study sessions; voluntary enrichment clubs; sports clubs, practices and fixtures; also, some targeted support sessions & interventions. We will advertise what will be offered at the start of the school year.</i>
Will the school bus times be amended to fit with the changes to the timings of the school day?	<i>The consultation included meetings with BusVannin who have confirmed that bus times will be altered so that all students will be able to catch their bus at the end of the school day earlier with the longest wait time being no different to what it currently is. We will share the new bus timetable for next academic year as soon as it has been published. For those students that choose to remain in school to take part in the enrichment opportunities until 4pm, they will still be able to catch a service bus home and use their subsidised bus cards.</i>
Will the new timings affect Sixth Form students who study in collaboration with Ballakermeen?	<i>The new timings of the school day will not preclude the small number of students who choose to study one of their A level courses at Ballakermeen.</i>
Will one weekly tutorial session be enough time?	<i>As there will no longer be a requirement for the entire PSHE curriculum to be covered within tutorial time, the one weekly slot should be sufficient to ensure there are still regular collective assemblies and opportunities for tutors to carry out the necessary work with their tutees.</i>
Currently Sixth Form students are able to remain on site to study up to 5pm, will this still be possible?	<i>Although all of the enrichment opportunities lower down the school will finish at 4pm, the Sixth Form Centre can be kept open later for those students that wish to use it.</i>
What lessons have been removed to make way for PSHE /tutorial lessons?	<i>In Year 7 & 8 there will no longer be timetabled Core Skills lessons in the curriculum. In Year 9 there will be one less MFL lesson and in Year 10 there will be one less Science lesson. Students will still be able to study both French and Spanish during their time at Lower School and all students will still have the requisite number of guided learning hours required to study their Science GCSE. This has all been factored in to the decision-making process.</i>
Would there still be lunchtime clubs ?	<i>Although it is anticipated most enrichment opportunities will take place during the after school slot, it is likely there will still be some voluntary clubs running over lunchtime.</i>
Will there be an impact on students arriving late to first lesson as no longer the 'cushion' of a daily tutorial?	<i>The school will monitor punctuality closely and will follow up with every student who is late to school in the morning. The larger Pastoral Support Team will also play a key part in monitoring punctuality and attendance.</i>

New Timings of School Day – 2024/25

PRE-SCHOOL	8.15am	Support Available	Canteen Open – Breakfast Club Supervised Study Spaces open Pastoral Support available for students Appeals Desk Open Progress Zone Support Available (from 8.30am)
COMPULSORY SCHOOL DAY	8.45am	Formal start to School Day	Movement Time
	8.50am	Lesson 1	Learning Lesson Time
	9.40am	Lesson 2	Learning Lesson Time
	10.30am	Break	Social Time Canteen Open Reflection Time Consequence
	10.50am	Lesson 3	Learning Lesson Time
	11.40am	Lesson 4	Learning Lesson Time
	12.30pm	Lunchtime	Social Time Canteen Open – Lunch
	1.20pm	Lesson 5	Learning Lesson Time
	2.10pm	Lesson 6	Learning Lesson Time
	3.00pm	End of compulsory school day	Scheduled school buses depart after this
EXTENDED ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES	3.10pm	Extended Opportunities begin	Supervised Study Spaces Voluntary enrichment Clubs & Activities Voluntary Subject-based study sessions School sports fixtures Progress Zone Individual Interventions After School Reflection / consequences
	4.00pm	Extended Opportunities end	Students can still use bus cards for service buses

Can I thank you again for your continued co-operation and support.

Yours faithfully



Mr C J Coole PGCE, NPQH
Head Teacher