



Thornhill Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the consultation with regards to the new school day, I am writing to inform you that we will be changing the school day at Thornhill Academy from September 2024. As discussed, the day will extend by an additional 25 minutes. This will then meet with the Department of Education's expectation of a 32.5-hour school week.

Thank you to those of you who responded to our consultation which was in support of the proposal. In addition to discussion with parents/carers, we have also discussed this with trade unions, staff and school council.

As discussed in the previous letter, we believe that these adjustments will bring about benefits to the school community and have a positive impact on your child's education. The additional 25 minutes, to be named PM-PD, will be scheduled before lunch. Students in Years 7 to 10 will utilise this time for whole class reading sessions with their tutor. This additional focus on reading, aligns with our school's commitment to literacy, supporting students in enhancing their skills, and fostering a genuine enjoyment for reading, a vital aspect that can sometimes decline during secondary school years. Furthermore, students who require additional assistance with their reading will receive dedicated support during this allocated time

For Year 11 students, this extra time will be used to provide targeted GCSE intervention, replacing the current period 6 offer at the end of the day. This change aims to ensure that all Year 11 students receive tailored support to enhance their GCSE outcomes.

From September, the school day will be as follows:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Time</u>
AM-PD	08:40
Period 1	09:00
Period 2	10:00
Break	11:00
Period 3	11.15
PM-PD	12:15
Lunch	12:40
Period 4	13:10
Period 5	14:10
End of Day	15:10

School will begin for the start of the Autumn term for all students, on Monday 9th of September at 8.40am with morning line up. We advise all students to be on the school premises for 8.30am for a punctual start to the term. Breakfast club will be available from 8:00am in The Thumbprint, breakfast club is free to all students.

Kind regards,

Sue Hamilton
Headteacher

