



Thornhill Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

26th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of some proposed changes to the structure of the school day here at Thornhill Academy. We are looking to extend the school day by an additional 25 minutes, to meet the Department of Education's new minimum expectation of a 32.5-hour school week. If approved, these changes will come into effect from 1st September 2024.

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.

The proposed school day schedule is as follows:

Activity	Time
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

We trust that these alterations will contribute positively to your child's educational journey and academic progress. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any queries or require further information regarding these proposed changes.

We also appreciate that these changes may impact wider family life. For this reason, I would like to invite you to please share any feedback that you have by sharing with us via this feedback form [Change to the School Day - Parent/Carer feedback form](#)

We will release the results of the consultation by Friday 12th July and will email you the outcome. This will also be placed on the school website.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Hamiltan', written in a cursive style.

Mrs S Hamiltan
Headteacher