

27 March 2014

Dear Parents,

In my letter of 24th January, I asked whether you had any views about a proposed change to the timing of the Academy day. A number of parents responded to that letter, and I am grateful to everyone who took the time and trouble to let me know their views. A variety of views were expressed: some respondents were in favour of the changes, some were not, and some did not express a view either way.

Following a meeting of the Full Governing Body earlier this month, and following further discussions with colleagues here, we have decided to proceed with the plan for learners to finish the Academy day slightly earlier one day a week. However, in view of the responses received from parents, we have made some changes to our original proposals. In particular:

- the day of the earlier finish will now be Thursday, not Monday;
- on the other days (*ie* Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday) Academy will finish at 3:15pm, not 3:20pm; and
- to ensure that the total amount of teaching time in the week will not be adversely affected from what it was in September 2013, the Academy day will start five minutes earlier instead: pupils will need to be at their registration bases by **8:45am** every morning.

These changes will come into effect from **September 2014**.

This means that, from September, our Academy day will operate as follows:

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays		Tuesdays		Thursdays	
08:35	Staff Briefing	08:35	Staff Briefing	08:35	Staff Briefing
08:45	Registration	08:45	Registration, Prayer	08:45	Registration
08:50	Assembly/Form period	08:50	Learning for Life	08:50	Assembly/Form period
09:15	Period 1	09:35	Period 1	09:15	Period 1
10:15	Break	10:25	Break	10:05	Period 2
10:35	Period 2	10:45	Period 2	10:55	Break
11:35	Period 3	11:40	Period 3	11:15	Period 3
12:30	Lunch	12:30	Lunch	12:05	Period 4
13:10	post-lunch movement	13:10	post-lunch movem't	12:55	Lunch
13:15	Period 4	13:15	Period 4	13:35	post-lunch movement
14:15	Period 5	14:15	Period 5	13:40	Period 5
15:15	End of the day	15:15	End of the day	14:30	End of the day (pupils)
				14:35	Staff training
				16:35	End of the day (staff)

From the feedback we received, I appreciate that some parents, particularly those of younger boys, may prefer their son(s) to stay in the Academy until 3:15pm on Thursdays. I will therefore be exploring with colleagues the best way of offering some sort of 'Homework Club' or other provision from 2:30pm to 3:15pm on Thursdays. Those staying behind will be supervised (but not taught) during this period, and since a register would be taken at each session, we would expect that, once a pupil has been given a place at such a Club, he would attend for the full 45 minutes every week. If you would like to express an interest in accessing such provision, please complete and return the reply-slip below by **Friday 25th April**. We may not be able to accommodate all pupils whose parents express an interest in this offer, and in the event of oversubscription, priority will be given to those with additional needs (using the information on our Special Educational Needs register), and then to younger pupils.

I believe this change will enable us to continue to invest in the professional development of every member of our staff, so that your son or daughter can continue to receive the best possible education throughout their time with us. If you have any questions about these plans, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Stephen Brierley
Principal

Name of child: _____

Form: _____

Please tick: [] Having read the information contained in the Principal's letter, I am interested in the possibility of my son being supervised from 2:30pm to 3:15pm on Thursdays from 1st September 2014.

Please return this slip to Ms A Mocroft, St Margaret's CE Academy, Aigburth Road, Liverpool, L17 6AB (or please e-mail amocroft@stmargaretsacademy.com) by Friday 25th April.