



RIVINGTON FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL

Growing Together: Living life to its fullest; making a difference along the way.



02.05.2024

Dear Families

Re: Consultation and proposal to change the length of the school day

I am writing to inform you of some proposed changes to the structure of the school day from September 2024. This proposed change is in line with recent Government recommendation and will allow us to maximise our curriculum offer for our children.

The Education Act 2002, Section 32, confirms that it is the responsibility of the Governing Body of all maintained schools for setting the times at which school sessions should begin and end each day.

The Secretary of State expects schools and academies to consult and take account of the views of all interested parties before they implement any changes to the school day. Schools are advised to consult and serve reasonable notice on their Local Authority, parents/carers, pupils and staff.

Currently, the official start time in our school is 9am. Anyone arriving after this time is classified as late. As you know, we have encouraged children to enter into school at 8.45am for a few years now.

Schools now have to offer a minimum of 32.5 hours schooling each week and in order to formalise this offer we propose the **official** start time for all children in school moves to **8.45am**. Anyone arriving after this time would subsequently be classified as late.

We also propose a finishing time of **3:30pm** in order to add a total of 30 minutes to our school day. Teachers will keep hold of children who are part of a larger sibling group until all siblings have been collected. We ask parents who have more than one child at the school to continue to collect from EYFS/KS1 first and then to make your way round in to KS2. We ask all parents to be as prompt as possible for a 3:30pm collection.

Should the changes be approved, they will come into force **from 01 September 2024**.

I believe that these changes will be beneficial to the school community, and will have a positive effect on your child's education, allowing for more learning time within the school day.

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*Horrobin Lane, Rivington,
Lancashire, BL6 7SE
Tel: 01204 69 69 51
Headteacher:
Mrs S E Annette BA (QTS)*



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The information in this letter has been approved by the School's Governing Body. In light of these proposals, the School's Governing Body wants to take into account:

- any arrangements for schools made by Lancashire County Council, such as school transport, meals, crossing patrols and maintenance of buildings/grounds;
- any private provider of services, e.g. catering, PE/Sports;
- the views and interests of parents/carers;
- the interests of other schools, e.g. linked transport, campus sites, collaborative curricular or after school arrangements;
- the views and interests of all school staff, including peripatetic staff;
- implications for the school's policy on charging for school activities;
- Implications for any community or other non-school use of the school premises; and the likely cost implications. NB The Fair Funding scheme provides for a school to be charged for any reasonable additional net costs on an accepted service such as home-to-school transport incurred by the County Council as a result of a decision by the Governing Body (see section 2);
- local characteristics of the area, such as density of population, daylight hours, and the availability of public transport;
- community or other non-school use of the school premises;
- other local schools where there is collaborative working or shared facilities;
- other schools /services in near proximity;
- other schools where there is linked transport;
- feeder schools in respect of sibling issues and the local community.

Consultation

The County Council requires a minimum consultation period of 3 months in order to enable the accurate gathering of information on the impact of the proposed changes on home-to-school transport. This time is needed for the detailed evaluation of costs and any other implications.

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I appreciate that these changes may affect you in terms of childcare or working arrangements, and in terms of your child's education. For this reason, I would like to invite you to give your feedback by sending your response to schoolhours@rivington.lancs.sch.uk by **Thursday 1st August**, ensuring the subject line of the email includes: **Changing the length of the school day.**

The Governing Body would also like to provide an opportunity for all parents/carers of registered pupils at the school, the Headteacher and other interested parties, to discuss the proposal of a change to the school session times at a meeting on **Thursday 16th May at 3:30pm in Y5/6 classroom.**

We will release the results of the consultation during the week commencing **5th August 2024** and will communicate the outcome to you once the Governing Body has met to decide whether to go ahead with the proposed changes.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Sarah Annette

Headteacher

Mrs. Nicola King

Acting Chair of Governors

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