



14 September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Consultation about the School Day at The Ongar Academy

Thank you for welcoming me so positively in to the Ongar Community. The Ongar Academy is clearly a good school in every aspect and it is so exciting to be here this term. The school is going through a period of change, quite naturally, as it gets larger in size, so I have been looking at structures and procedures.

As the school is getting bigger very quickly, the school day needs to change accordingly to make sure it is a purposeful and safe learning environment.

The rationale for looking at this is for a number of reasons and observations I have made as the Acting Headteacher.

1. Breaktime - 15 minutes clearly isn't enough time to get 480 students through to get their refreshments at the canteen and next year it will be 600 students through the canteen.
2. Having a split lunch between Years 7 and 8 and 9, 10 and 11 will ensure all students have the space and time to enjoy their recreational time. At the moment queues are taking 40 minutes to get through as we have a line of 480 students; next year 600.
3. Removing the 5 minutes walking time to lessons. Our students conduct themselves so exceptionally and the building is only a rectangle that there isn't a need for 5 minutes to move between lessons, in some cases, to move to the room next door.
4. The students would register in their lesson one. Having lesson begin immediately will ensure that students are on time to school and that they are in the correct frame of mind for learning immediately. Again with a small school, having two registrations, seems excessive.
5. Lessons would be an hour long not 55 minutes – so deeper learning can take place.

Obviously, this is a consultation, and I would like to take the views of absolutely everyone. We need to get this right for the community we serve and most importantly for our students.

Please see the proposed school day from me.

8.35 – 9.35	Period 1 (register in this period)	
9.35 – 10.35	Period 2	
10.35 – 10.55	Break – all year groups	
10.55 – 11.55	Period 3	
11.55 – 12.55	Period 4	
12.55-1.30 (inc 5 minutes travel time)	Lunch A for Year 7 and 8	Registration SMSC/ Assembly 9,10 and 11
1.30 -2.05 (inc 5 minutes travel time)	Lunch B for Years 9,10 and 11	Registrations/SMSC/ Assembly. 7 and 8
2.05 – 3.05	Period 5	

Headteacher: Mr. A. Osborne (Acting)

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE





The Ongar Academy

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Enrichment will run from 3.05 – 4.05.

I, absolutely welcome any constructive views on this day. What I will do is collate all of the views of the students in assemblies, Primary Headteachers, Parents; Governing Body and Bus companies and pass the final recommendation to The Bridge Academy Trust and Trustees and TOA GB for final sign off. Could you please pass on any comments to headteacher@theongaracademy.org.

I really would like to know how you feel about the proposed day so do talk to your children about this at home

End of Consultation is the 3rd October.

I will feedback to you all in due course.

I really do appreciate your support as we move this school to outstanding.

Yours sincerely

Mr Osborne
Headteacher (Acting)

Headteacher: Mr. A. Osborne (Acting)

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