



12 November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Change of School Day

Firstly, can I just thank you for your immense support of the transformation of TOA over the past eight weeks. The reaction of the students when they were told that I had become substantive is something I will remember forever and a memory I will cherish in my career.

As you are aware, communication has improved considerably and I am constantly welcoming the views of students; parents and the community. We have set-up school councils for every year and these students wear their badges with pride and take their responsibility so very seriously.

We have conducted student surveys which have told us that they are happy and love their school. They so desperately want the community to like them and feel some parent's negative comments make them upset.

The vast majority of parents and carers are totally and utterly supportive and so constructive in their feedback. The parents here are simply amazing. It's those parents and all students that make the job of a Headteacher such a rewarding one. As you have read in my letter in October, I will not let a tiny minority of parents create negativity and abuse social media - I will not tolerate it. We are here to teach our children values of respect; kindness and acceptance - these are our core values.

Please find a copy of the results of the parental survey which nearly 50% of you filled and sent in to school.

PARENT SURVEY RESULTS - NOVEMBER 2018		
	QUESTION	% Agreed
1	My child is happy at this school	97%
2	My child feels safe at this school	97%
3	My child makes good progress at this school	95%
4	My child is well looked after at this school	97%
5	My child is taught well at this school	97%
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	80%
7	This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	90%
8	This school deals effectively with bullying	80%
9	This school is well led and managed	97%
10	This school responds well to any concerns I raise	90%
11	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	95%
12	Would you recommend this school to another parent?	97%

Headteacher: Mr. A. Osborne

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE





The Ongar Academy

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I am also writing to you about the school day. We have listened to all stakeholders and spent 6 weeks amending due to the views of parents/carers and students. We are going to pilot this from January until July and review in May. I gave you my rationale in September and having been a Headteacher of a school of 1000 and was a Deputy of a school of 2400, I felt it my duty to raise expectations; extend learning time and extend social time. Children are queueing for break and lunch for so long that they only have about 10 minutes for recreation. Ironically, splitting the lunch and extending the break will give students much more time for activities and socialising. I have also included a break after every two hours to use the bathrooms.

Also those parents that are used to collecting their children at 3.30pm - we have enrichments, clubs; homework club and all adults are on site - so this should not cause any inconvenience at all.

Years 7 and 8

8.45 – 9.45	Period 1 (register in this period)
9.45 – 10.45	Period 2
10.45 – 11.05	Break – all year groups
11.05 – 12.05	Period 3
12.05 – 1.05	Period 4
1.05 – 1.40	Lunch
1.40 – 2.00	Registration
2.00 – 3.00	Period 5
3.00 – 4.00	Enrichment (Monday to Thursday)

Year 9 and 10

8.45 – 9.45	Period 1 (register in this period)
9.45 – 10.45	Period 2
10.45 – 11.05	Break – all year groups
11.05 – 12.05	Period 3
12.05 – 1.05	Period 4
1.05	Including 5-minute movement time, water filling and toilet break.
1.10 – 1.30	Registration
1.25 – 2.00	Lunch
2.00 – 3.00	Period 5
3.00 – 4.00	Enrichment (Monday to Thursday)

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Buses will collect at 3pm.

I know that your sons and daughters will find this beneficial. My soul purpose in this school is to continue to create a calm, orderly and safe environment as our school becomes even bigger next year. I take this responsibility very seriously so I hope that you understand the reasons for this change.

Again, can I thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. A. Osborne
Headteacher

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