

Dear parents, carers and families,

Re - Friday 9th October 2020

There will be an early finish on Friday the 9th of October. This means that pupils will be asked to leave the academy at the following times:

- Year 7, 8 and 9 at 14.25
- Year 10 at 14.20

If any parent cannot allow their child to leave Charter at that time please notify your relevant Head of Year and we will look after them on site. We aim to return next week to 60 minute lessons and a 28 period week. This means that the 100 minute lessons will finish this Friday afternoon. We are moving back to the 28 period model for the following reasons:

1. All subjects will get their actual curriculum time, for example science will get more curriculum time in their week allowing them to deliver more content than they are currently able.
2. Splitting the lessons helps memory and recall; pupils who attend Charter know that the focus is on retaining information. Two sixty minute lessons a week rather than one, one hundred minute lesson, is preferable.
3. We are bringing back specialist rooms into the timetable. After our return from lockdown we needed to take it slowly and ensure that we have clear routines and routes around the academy. Now that this is in place, art, drama and music students will have specialist rooms again. We felt that we would be hampering the progress of pupils in these subjects if this was not available.
4. The change to 28 periods brings a split lunch into our timetable. As the weather deteriorates, we need to ensure that pupils have a warm and dry place to eat. By adapting our timetable we can accommodate this safely, ensuring we can maintain social distancing for all year groups. It also means, hot meals are now available for all pupils.
5. Specialist bases can be in place for SEND pupils and those that are receiving support for Raising Achievement within a space that provides comfort in their surroundings.

The early release on Friday will allow::

1. Staff to be briefed on year group bubble locations and routes to those lessons to ensure that pupils are moving around the site safely.
2. Feedback from the staff to ensure that our risk assessment is updated in line with these changes.
3. Time to prepare and move books and resources for Monday morning.

The 100 minute lessons have served a purpose in allowing classroom routines to be embedded, allowing teachers a longer period of time to understand where the gaps in knowledge are and then compensate for them in lessons and develop extended writing. It has allowed us to brief pupils on remote learning, e-safety and prepare them should we go into a local lockdown or have to close a bubble.

Moving forward, all year groups will remain in bubbles. Cleaning rotas have been adapted to ensure specialist rooms are cleaned in between lessons.

There is a 30 minute gap between lunch sittings which will allow all seating areas to be cleaned before the next set of pupils use them.

Monday the 12th of October will commence at the same times and period one will be used to distribute timetables and go through routines. Lessons will then start period two. Every Monday and Friday the school will finish at 14.50 (apart from detentions) and it will finish at 15.50 (apart from detentions or catch up) on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please find the times of the school day below:

08:20 Arrival of Year 10 & 11
08:30 Year 10 & 11 tutor time begins. Arrival of Year 7, 8 & 9.
08:45 Year 7, 8 & 9 tutor time begins
09:00 Period 1
10:00 Period 2
11:00 Break
11:20 Period 3
12:20 Period 4A & Lunch A
12:50 Period 4B
13:20 Lunch B
13:50 Period 5
14:50 Period 6 (Tuesday - Thursday only)

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain the safety of our students, staff and the wider academy community.

Yours sincerely,



Mr K Blakey
Principal