



St Joseph's Roman Catholic High School

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Dear Parent/Carer

Parental Curriculum Consultation

In January I wrote to update you on the results of the Parental Curriculum Consultation which took place before Christmas. The Consultation looked at the following areas of the curriculum; how many lessons there should be in the day, how pupils should be grouped, when pupils should start their GCSE courses and what subjects should be on offer and the length and timing of the school day.

On the last point I explained that we were in discussion with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) over whether they will provide buses to accommodate such a change. Parents had asked for earlier start and finish times but most did not want the 7pm start that some had put forward! I explained at the parental meeting that the actual times were dependant on what Transport for Greater Manchester could schedule whilst still meeting their commitments to other school.

The purpose of the change of the school day is to reflect the fact that pupil learn best in the morning and that the response time of both the body and mind is much greater earlier in the day. Coupled with fewer but longer lessons this will enable us to give a deeper learning experience as part of the curriculum. Transport for Greater Manchester have now got back to me offering two options to choose from and we ask that you tell us which one you prefer by completing our online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ML3WKW5> by next Tuesday. This will enable them to finalise bus contracts.

They can schedule buses so that the new school day could begin at 8:20 with a warning bell at 8:15am or it could begin at 8:30am with a warning bell at 8:25am. Students would need to be on site by the warning bell. As most of our buses are here by 8:25am anyway, we do not imagine that the buses will have to pick up much earlier than they do for the current 8:45am start time. Both choices would require a finish time of 2.45pm. However, GMT will only finalise their bus routes and publish them in July.

That the usual school day is finishing a bit earlier will provide time after school for our extracurricular offer and period 6 boosters, more details on these will follow next week. It will also provide dedicated time for us to train staff so that we can improve our provision.

Yours faithfully

M Graham

M Graham
Deputy Headteacher



DIocese of SALFORD

