Dear Parent/Carer

**School Day Consultation**

The increase to the Primary 1 and 2 school hours (from August 2017), added to our growing school roll has increased the amount of traffic (pedestrian and vehicle) around our school. Currently this adds to congestion, particularly at the end of the school day when our times closely coincide with the other campus schools.

As a result we consulted with our families and the results are detailed below. All comments have been made anonymous but have been shared as it is helpful to see how a decision would impact on different groups of people.

This may be something we return to in the future and it would be helpful to have discussions with the other schools on the campus. However, in view of the results we are not going to make any change to the school day for 2018-2019.

| Option 1  (Status Quo) | Option 2 | Option 3 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Monday – Thursday 8.50 – 15.25  Friday 8.50 – 12.10 | Monday – Thursday 8.50 – 15.15  Friday 8.50 – 12.25 | Monday – Thursday 8.50 – 15.20  Friday 8.50 – 12.05 |
| 92 | 74 | 31 |
| I don’t feel 5/10 minutes is going to make much difference.  I feel the school day should stay as it is. Perhaps the High School could change their times.  Change may affect nursery pick up times.  See no need to change a comfortable and set up routine.  It is what it is, Woodburn is a big school, always going to be congestion.  Childcare is hard enough without more unnecessary changes.  I fully understand the problems with congestion around the school, but we travel by car and park in Woodburn to give us a walk to and from school and don’t feel a need to change.  There will be increased congestion with any option due to the expansion of houses being built in the area. However, I would like the status quo.  My concern would be the additional cost of after school club for the extra time.  Don’t see the point in changing things again.  Above would not help reduce congestion, needs to be bigger time gap between primary and high school finishes and starts. Suggest 08.30 start 15.00 finish.  We sometimes need older children to collect so earlier finish is not helpful Mon-Thurs.  I am not convinced these changes would have been great enough to make any difference. Having P1 and P2 children the same time makes things easier for families with older children.  Option 2 is not feasible as parents with AM nursery places would have almost an hour wait for siblings to come out of primary on Fridays.  Please do not go for option 2 – if you have a child in the nursery AM Friday class in addition to a child in primary this would make it a 55min wait, which is a long time to have to wait around with a 3 year old.  Changing school times will have an impact on working parents who have childcare organised. Would also be changing times of services etc. Have they been consulted?  I don’t think the parents/carers should be deciding times, this should be up to Head Teachers.  I think it should stay the same, the high school should change as most make their own way to and from school. Less juggling. Also I feel that taking time from lunch is not a good idea, they have little enough time to eat and play.  15.25 pick up is necessary for myself as I need this time to travel from work.  Changing the times of the school day is likely to cause problems for parents who live in The Scholars due to the volume of cars parking outside St Davids. It is very difficult to get in or out of the estate when parents are picking up / dropping off children to the school.  Option 2 would mean us hanging around for 10 minutes 4 days. Option 3 is a 20 min wait but only one day. Could the high schools not change their times as fewer families collect from there. Shortening lunchtimes to shorten the day is unfair as younger children need this time to eat.  Later finish makes it easier to collect as a working parent.  I work around my child so changing the time of the school day would affect my work pattern.  I have another child attending school nursery so these times would have to work together to make pick up easier.  My work hours work around the original times.  Would make a huge difference if people could walk but I know this is already encouraged.  Reducing by 5-10 mins will not make much of a difference.  Would not like to see lunchtime decrease as my youngest struggles as it is, and option 2 would not give me time to get back from work in time.  We are happy with the current arrangement and are not experiencing any difficulties with the journey to and from school. | I think option 2 is the best option. Option 1& 3 don’t give enough time with the high school campus coming out traffic wise.  Feel the school should come out before high school pupils as footpaths can become really busy and it would be safer for them.  There is only one entrance for cars to both the primary and campus – can entrance not be made from Thornybank side to ease traffic, also an extra car park.  Has any consideration been given to starting the school day earlier?  I think option 2 is the only one whose timings would make any difference to congestion. I would also like shorter day so more time at home.  The traffic is unsafe for children but some parents need to use cars due to work.  Would make things easier if P1&2 were able to leave earlier. Lots of small children get squashed at the school gates when trying to exit the playground.  My daughter attends the PM Nursery class which starts at 12.30 so this would remove the wait between school finishing and nursery starting.  Option 2 might make a difference to congestion. Shorter school day = more time at home which I think is good.  My choice is subject to nursery finish time changing accordingly also. If nursery time is to remain 15.25 then my choice is option 1.  Option 2 coincides with nursery drop off for PM group.  Ease congestion at the end of the day.  This option gives the best chance of clearing congestion.  Working fulltime therefore this doesn’t really cause a huge impact. My personal opinion however is that I would like them to have more time in school on a Friday.    Could High School not change their times as those children are old enough to care for themselves? Most seem to walk home. Am sure it wouldn’t be as disruptive to those parents as Primary.  Shame there is only one entrance/exit to school – will always be congestion Don’t think 5-10 minutes will make much difference really. | Morning place after the Summer so earlier Friday finish would be less of a wait between finishing times.  I like the idea of adjusted times but still close enough to high school finishing times.  Option 2 would be a huge nightmare on a Friday with other children being picked up form nursery.  Would you consider an 8.30 start for everyone to help with nursery drop off at school and save on breakfast club for people. Also this would help with me going on to work so I wouldn’t have to hang about until 8.50. |