



ManorAcademy
Excellence Through Innovation
Principal: Donna Trusler

8 June 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Proposed Changes to the Academy Day from September 2015

I am writing to advise you of the proposed changes to the academy timings of the day which will hopefully take affect from September 2015

Firstly, students will return on Wednesday 3 September 2015 unless they are in Manor College where separate arrangements will be in place.

Many of you will be aware of the massive changes that our Government have instigated on our education system, and I thank you to those of you who have attended our recent information sessions about this. The changes effectively mean that students have to learn more material and at a higher level than they ever have before. My question to parents during our information sessions was "how do we ensure students are ready to sit new, more rigorous exams?" A large number of parents responded by saying that the Academy Day could be extended, and I have listened to your views.

Your children only have one chance at Secondary school and we must make every second count. I therefore propose the following changes from September 2015:

Monday to Thursday

The Academy Day will begin with the arrival of students no later than 8.25am, with lessons beginning at 8.30am. There will be squad time or assembly time for 15 minutes followed by 6 timetabled hour long periods. There will be a 15 minute break at 10.45 where students will be able to buy refreshments. Lunch for all students will be at 1pm until 1.45pm. In the new academic year there will be two new and additional food outlets to alleviate any excessive queuing and allow for a quicker response to demand. Taught lessons Monday to Thursday will finish at 3.45pm.

Friday

Friday has a similar format with the exception that the timetabled lessons finish at 1pm. Students will be allowed offsite at 1.45pm after lunch. However, the Academy will be offering an opportunity to participate in a range of sporting and other activities called 'E9'. There would no longer be set one to one mentor time once every three weeks for each student. There will be opportunities for one to one sessions during squad time. It is important that students have access to personalised coaching conversations on a very regular basis, if they require it. Those students who have additional support mentors in Flourish will continue to do so.

www.themanor.notts.sch.uk

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The reasons for the proposed changes are:-

- The 114 learning hours gained by students, equating to 5 weeks of schooling per year. 798 hours in 7 years, 35 weeks. **Students gain an extra year of schooling.**
- Sporting and additional academic/vocational activities Friday afternoon to enrich learning and experience.
- Further personalisation of the timetable for students with time for Work Related Learning without missing Principal Entitlement (Core lessons)
- Our students are more absorbent earlier in the week and earlier in the day.
- Lunch is later for everybody allowing more morning learning time and students can engage in practical activities Friday afternoon when learning is at its lowest rate in classroom lessons.
- Students will be able to have lunchtime all together, building on social relationships and strong friendships.
- With the exception of Friday's additional revision and sports will be available at lunch time, as all staff will be released from teaching
- Manor College timetable would be identical to the rest of the Academy, rather than different, as is currently the case
- Many schools are already following this model because it gives students the best opportunity to succeed; your child deserves this chance.
- Facilitates increased collaboration and sharing of good practice between teaching staff, who will have increased simultaneous planning time.

I have designed an online survey to allow parents to give their views on the proposed change. Please use this link to access it: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ParentsAcademyDay> .

The survey will close on Monday 22 June 2015 and I will write again informing you of the parents and staff views on my proposed changes.

I very much hope that I can count on your support for these changes. They are designed to allow us all to focus on learning, teaching and providing the very best opportunity for the young people of our Academy.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Trusler', with a checkmark at the end. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Donna Trusler
Principal

The framework for the new Academy Day from September is as below:

Academy Day Monday to Thursday	
8.30	Squad time
8.45	Period 1
9.45	Period 2
10.45	Break
11.00	Period 3
12.00	Period 4
1.00	Lunch
1.45	Period 5
2.45	Period 6
3.45	End of Academy Day

Academy Day Friday	
8.30	Squad time
8.45	Period 1
9.45	Period 2
10.45	Break
11.00	Period 3
12.00	Period 4
1.00	Lunch
1.45	End of Academy Day