

4th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Consultation on the Length of the School Day

I am writing to open consultation to a change in the school day. The Government has an expectation that all schools should be open for a minimum of 32.5 hours a week. At Cirencester Kingshill School, we are currently not meeting this expectation. Although it is not a requirement for academies to uphold this, it has been made clear that Ofsted are highly likely to review the length of the school day and its impact on the progress of the students. As we currently remain a “Requires Improvement” school, we are committed to doing all we can to secure a movement out of this category for our students, the professionals who work within the school and our community. The intention behind this extra time would be to allow us to enhance our focus on personal development: reading, student leadership and wellbeing.

We currently expect our students to be on site for 8.40am, but school does not officially start until 8.50am. By changing the official start of the school day to 8.40am, we will be meeting the 32.5 hours expectation.

Therefore, we are consulting on an **official start time of 8.40am, Monday to Friday, starting in September 2024**. There will be no change to the finishing time.

We have consulted with Gloucestershire School Transport and the bus companies and they are able to support this start time and in fact, since February half term, the Gloucestershire services have changed the collection times to allow our students to arrive for 8.30am.

However, we do appreciate that these changes may affect you, in terms of childcare or working arrangements. Therefore, I would like to invite you to give your feedback by writing to us using head@cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk with any points you wish to be taken into consideration as part of the consultation before Monday 18th March 2024. Following the period of consultation, I will confirm the revised opening hours by Friday 22nd March 2024.

Thank you in advance for your sharing your considerations.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Lindley
Headteacher