

25 May 2023

Dear families

Introduction and changes to the academy day

As you will be aware from Monday 5 June, I will be taking up the position as Executive Principal at Dixons Trinity Chapeltown and will be supported to lead the academy alongside Angelique O'Garro, as Head of Primary, and Emma Hickey, as Head of Secondary, who will lead their phases on a day-to-day basis. I would like to express how delighted I am to be joining such a fantastic school community and to be working alongside all the students, staff and families at DTC. Our core mission of ensuring we get students to and through university, or a real alternative, so that they thrive in a top job and have a great life, is something in which I passionately believe, and having worked for Dixons for several years, I will continue to drive and deliver on this mission for the young people in the community we serve.

Change to the academy day

Over the past half term in preparation for joining the academy, I have been working with Mrs Brookshaw, Miss Hickey and Miss O'Garro to review the current academy day. Having worked with the current timetable for a number of years, we are keen to improve and refine the structure of the day to maximise learning opportunities and continue to provide an exceptional education to every child that attends DTC, whilst also listening to the feedback from families regarding the length of the academy day. With this in mind, we are proposing the following changes:

Primary Phase

The primary school day will start for all students at **8:45am** and will finish at **3.20pm** Monday to Friday

This proposal means that we will shorten the day Monday – Thursday from the current finish time of 3:50pm. To ensure that we do not lose valuable learning time for students in the primary phase, we will slightly increase the length of the day on a Friday to **3.20pm**. There will be no change to the start time of the academy day for the primary phase.

Secondary Phase

The secondary phase will start for all students at **8.20am** and finish at **3.30pm** Monday to Friday.

This proposal means that we will shorten the day from the current finish time of 4.05pm Monday to Thursday but we will slightly increase the length of the academy day on Friday, to ensure we do not lose valuable learning time by distributing the time equally over the week. In addition, we will be looking to remove afternoon meeting for students. The start of the academy day for the secondary phase will move from **8:00am** to **8:20am**.

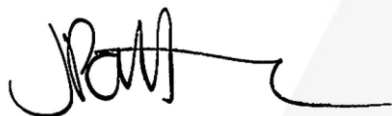
The reason we are looking to change the academy day is to provide a much more cohesive end and start time between primary and secondary which will allow siblings to collect children from the primary phase. We have also listened to families regarding the length of the school day and have looked to shorten the day, whilst maintaining our current curriculum offer for students.

Should the changes be approved, they will come into force from **24 August 2023** for the new academic year.

We believe that these changes will be beneficial to the school community and will have a positive effect on your child's education. To listen to the views of our community, we are offering you the opportunity to provide feedback and respond to the proposal. Feedback, comments, or suggestions can be sent shared by completing the following online form: <https://forms.office.com/e/5kNr7mCrOJ>. The feedback window will close on **Sunday 11 June**. Following the closure of the feedback window, we will review and consider all responses before finally reaching a decision. This decision will be communicated to all families by the end of week commencing **19 June 2023**.

I look forward to working with you all when I join the academy in June, and I hope you all have a safe and restful half term.

Yours sincerely



Jason Patterson
Executive Principal