



Downs View

Executive Headteacher: Vanessa Hickey

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1st February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Timings of the School Day

I hope you are well. As you will be aware at the start of this term we completed the geographical merger of the Hollingdean site to Woodingdean. The Hollingdean site had different timings for their school day. We are currently working with pupils and staff on different start and finish times for their school day.

The current school day times for each site are detailed below:

- **Downs View Woodingdean:** 8.50am – 3.15pm
- **Downs View Hollingdean:** 8.35am (8.45am lessons start) – 2.45pm
- **Downs View Link College:** 8.50am – 3.15pm
- **Downs View Life Skills College:** 9.00am – 3.15pm

There is a lot of variation in the times, therefore we need to align the school day so that all pupils and staff are working at the same times across all of our sites.

Our proposed times for the school day going forward are:

School Day Start Time: 9.00am
School Day Finish Time: 3.00pm

This will also affect the lunchtimes at all sites. Currently Hollingdean students have 45 minutes for lunch, this will be extended to 60 minutes. Our current lunch time for the other sites is 90 minutes. This will be shortened to 60 minutes. If pupils need longer for lunch then this will be looked at on a class basis. These changes to the lunch times will allow us to better support pupils as we will be able to use our MDSAs more effectively. Lunch times will be staggered to allow more staffing and use of the playground and hall space.

We are currently consulting with staff on this and it is also important that we have the views of our parents/carers. The information we gather will then feed into the consultation. Please can you fill in the Ping survey or complete the questionnaire below and return it to PA@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk

All of the information from staff, parents and carers will then be reviewed together and we hope to agree on the new school day times from the start of the summer term.

Thank you for your engagement with this, it is an important step into ensuring that we fully merge our school community.

Yours Sincerely,

Vanessa

Vanessa Hickey
Executive Headteacher



Timings of the School Day – Parent Survey

Name of your child/children:

There are 3 options for times of the day, please tick the one you prefer:

8.35am – 2.45pm

9.00am – 3.00pm

8.50am – 3.15pm

No preference

Please state the reason for your choice:

Is there anything else that we need to be aware of?