

April 2024

Dear families

At Dixons Music, we always strive to ensure we maximise every minute of the school day and find marginal gains to support our students and staff to be as successful as they can possibly be.

Feedback from parents and staff regularly seeks solutions to ensure our children can partake in activities outside of school e.g. attending mosque or participating in external sports clubs and training.

The traffic on Trinity Road is an on-going issue and we are committed to finding both practical and creative solutions to try to improve this situation.

With this in mind, **from September 2024**, we have made some changes to our academy day which will ensure quality time in lessons is sustained whilst maintaining the current extended curriculum offer.

The new timings of the school day will be:

Monday – Thursday:

- 8.20am – 3.15pm (families may collect from 3.05pm)
- Early Starters Club will run from 7.45am at a price of £1.50 per day
- After school provision will run each day until 4.15pm at a price of £4 per day (discounts will be available in a similar way to how club discounts work currently)

Friday:

- 8.20am – 2.15pm (families may collect from 2.05pm)
- Early Starters Club will run from 7.45am at a price of £1.50 per day
- After school provision will be run each day by external providers with price and finish time to be confirmed

We appreciate for some families, who have children at both Trinity and Music, having finishing times closer together is more practical. However, at the same time, there are families who only have children or a child at one of our schools and some of those also need to travel to other schools for other children. As a result, we have tried to find the optimum solution to meet the requirements for all families, but appreciate there may still be individual challenges. We hope with the staggered dismissal at Trinity, enhanced wrap-around offer at DMP and flexibility on dismissal of Upper Key-Stage 2, these issues will be minimised.

The new dismissal times should mean primary families are able to collect children promptly before dismissal at secondary begins. For your information, the dismissal times for Trinity are as follows:

Monday and Tuesday:

- Years 7-9: 8.00am – 3.30pm
- Years 10-11: 8.00am – 4.15pm

Wednesday and Thursday:

- Years 7-11: 8.00am – 3.30pm

Friday:

- Years 7-11: 8.00am – 2.30pm

There is also an extensive intervention offer for Year 11 students and enhanced extra-curricular offer for all students; therefore, these dismissal times are likely to be staggered even more in practice.

The changes will bring Dixons Music's day in line with other primary schools across our trust to enable collaboration and training between staff and other Dixons academies.

Please see changes in further detail below:



- Based on feedback from families, Early Starters Club will include a wider variety of activities such as games, puzzles, and use of ICT, with toast provided.
- Support staff and graduate co-teachers will now form part of our Mountain Rescue team offering more capacity for academic, pastoral and therapeutic interventions with students.
- On the occasions within the timetable when a class teacher is not available, we will endeavour to provide a member of SLT to the class wherever possible. Teaching assistants and graduate co-teachers will now be used on a more adhoc basis.
- Planning, preparation and assessment time for all teachers will now take place on a Friday afternoon, meaning that students will have more quality time in lessons with consistent teaching staff throughout the rest of the week.
- Staff lunchbreak will reduce by 15 minutes to ensure the same extended curriculum offer can still be timetabled for all students.
- With parental consent, Upper Key-Stage 2 students (in Year 5 and Year 6) may arrive on site and be dismissed independently. There will still be the option to collect students in these year groups from dismissal doors.

As always, if you have any questions or any feedback you would like to give, please contact the academy in the usual way at admin@dixonsmp.com.

Yours faithfully

Emma Steele
Principal

Nicola Morrissey
Head of School



