



# ST MATTHEW'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

8<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Governing Body are writing to you as part of a consultation to make changes to our school day.

We have consulted with school staff and are also consulting with the children and the local authority. As parents and carers, your views are very important to us, which is why we are writing to you separately. We wish to explain the benefits of our proposal to you and take on board your views before putting in place any changes in September. The changes, alongside the rationale for change, are set out below.

We currently open our classroom doors early at 8.45 which has proved to be very popular with families and children. Most children are now in school at this time and it has helped teachers provide more learning opportunities during the morning session when the children have more energy. It is proposed to make 8.45 the official start time of the school day with the classroom doors opening at 8.40.

Because the morning session is being extended, we propose to shorten the afternoon session and finish at 3.10. To ensure no learning time is lost, the length of assembly will be reduced from 30 minutes to 20 minutes. Ending school at 3.10 will also ensure that children and families are not walking home in the dark during the winter. I am sure you will all remember that last year one of our children was hit by a car whilst crossing A56 on her way home from school. With the massive changes coming to Stretford over the next few years, we anticipate traffic will only increase and become more of a danger to our children, especially during the dark winter months.

When the school was inspected by Ofsted last year, the inspection team suggested that the length of the lunchtime break was too long for our youngest children. Children in the early years currently have a lunchbreak of 90 minutes which has historically been in place to ensure the whole school finishes at the same time and our youngest children do not have the longest teaching sessions.

Therefore, these changes will reduce the lunchbreak for our youngest children to 60 minutes. We also propose staggering lunchtime so all the children have their break at slightly different times. By staggering lunchtimes in this way, we can also ensure the children all finish at the same time whilst maintaining or increasing their taught sessions. To achieve this we will also reduce lunchtime for KS1 and KS2 by 5 minutes.

Below are the full details of the proposed new session times:

Class	Morning	Afternoon
Nursery mornings only children	<b>8.45 – 11.45</b>	
Nursery afternoon only children		<b>12:10 – 3.10</b>
Nursery full time	<b>8.45 – 11:30</b>	<b>12:30 – 3.10</b>
Reception	<b>8.45 - 11.40</b>	<b>12.40 – 3.10</b>
KS1 (Y1-Y2)	<b>8.45 - 12.00</b>	<b>12.55 – 3.10</b>
KS2 (Y3- Y6)	<b>8.45 – 12.10</b>	<b>1.00 - 3.10</b>

Let Your Light Shine

St Matthew's CE Primary School

Poplar Road, Stretford, M32 9AN Tel: 0161 865 1284

Email: [admin@stmatthewsce.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmatthewsce.co.uk) Web: [www.stmatthews.trafford.sch.uk](http://www.stmatthews.trafford.sch.uk)



@StMatthewsPri

Headteacher Mr T Johnson



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To support families who might find these changes difficult, we propose:

- To aim to provide extra-curricular clubs afterschool activities until at least 3.50pm every night.
- To provide a broader range of extra-curricular clubs from different providers
- To maintain Breakfast Club and free toast.
- Kickstart will not add an extra charge to families for the increase of 20 minutes to their afterschool club. Instead they will move their session forward by 20 minutes, opening from 3.10 to 6.00.

The full consultation document can be found on our school website here:  
[stmatthews.trafford.sch.uk/parents/newsletters-letters](http://stmatthews.trafford.sch.uk/parents/newsletters-letters)

To share your views, please complete the attached slip and return to school before the deadline of 5.3.2017. Alternatively, you can email a response to school by emailing: [admin@stmatthewsco.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmatthewsco.co.uk)

Governors will consider all responses, along with those of the children, staff and local authority, at their meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2018. Any changes will not take effect until September 2018 and will be shared with you after the Easter holidays.

Our vision is for your children to thrive and shine at St Matthew's and every decision we make is always in their best interest. We strongly feel that changing the balance of our school day will have a positive impact on the education, well-being and welfare of every child in our school family.

We look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes,

Mr T Johnson  
Headteacher

Mrs B Garlick  
Chair of St Matthew's Governing Body

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## Parent School Day Consultation Feedback

Thank you for taking the time to complete this feedback form. Please can it be returned to either your child's class teacher or the school office.

Name:	Child's Class:
Comments:	
Signature:	Date:

**\*Please can all feedback forms be returned to school by 5<sup>th</sup> March 2017\***

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