



Dear Parents and Carers,

Lunch Arrangements

At the point when year groups were required to keep separated we introduced staggered lunch times. We have kept a version of this system up until this point but from 9th March we are trialling a return to a single lunchtime. Our traditional model of a single lunchtime offers significant benefits:

- More space as students are no longer required to keep away from areas where classes are being taught. Including the use of our new playground area.
- Increased access to school resources such as the library as there will no longer be clashes with classes.
- Access to all school toilets rather than only those near the playground.
- More opportunities to speak to teachers outside of lesson time as everyone will be available at the same time.
- The opportunity to meet with siblings and friends from all year groups.
- An increased level of staff supervision during lunchtime.
- A shorter one period afternoon for all year groups although this is adapted to a two period afternoon during examination periods.
- Simplified wet weather arrangements.
- A simplified daily routine for staff.

In the years since we last ran a single lunchtime our school has grown. Therefore to minimise queues we are going to trial a sittings system. Years 10 and 11 will have first sitting during Week 1 and Years 7, 8 and 9 will have first sitting during Week 2. We are also adjusting our school day slightly, moving five minutes from break to lunch. In time we intend to consult on a short extension to our overall school day.

We now have two outdoor canopy areas and we have invested in more outdoor seating, those students who bring a packed lunch will still have the opportunity to access these throughout the whole lunch period.

We will evaluate this model during the trial period and will no doubt find areas for improvement. During this time we ask for patience and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Mr N. K. Willingham
Headteacher