



'A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together'

17th April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of proposed changes to the school day at Rural Church Schools Academy Trust. This proposed change is in line with recent Government recommendation.

Earlier this year the government announced that schools in England should offer a minimum school week of 32.5 hours as part of a package of reforms aimed at raising standards. Most schools already deliver a 32.5-hour school week, which is equivalent to 8.45am to 3.15pm from Monday to Friday. Currently across our trust we have differing times which means our school days are approx. 15-minutes short of the government's current ambition.

Bunbury

KS1 - 8.55am to 3.10pm 31 hours and 15 minutes per week

KS2 - 8.55am to 3.15pm 31 hours and 40 minutes per week

St Oswalds

KS1 - 8.55am to 3.00pm - 30 hours and 25 minutes per week

KS2 - 8.55am to 3.15pm - 31 hours and 40 minutes per week

Warmingham

The school starts at 8.55 and finishes at 3:10pm

The children are in school 31 hours and 15 minutes per week

Currently the official start time in our schools is 8.55 am. Anyone arriving after this time is classified as late. As you know, we have encouraged children into school at 8.40 am for many years now so that morning work focusing on basic skills in writing and maths can be completed.

Our proposal is to have **one** of two possible choices;

- Start at 8.45am. 10 minutes earlier than we do at present and finish at 3.15pm which means our gates would open at 8.30am. Any child arriving after 8.45am would therefore be classified as late.
- Start at 8.55am and finish at 3.30pm thus providing further time in the afternoon for developing non-core curriculum subject teaching and learning.

We would like to hear from all stakeholders as to your views on the choices above.

Once the changes have been approved by the Rural Church Schools Academy Trust Board of Directors, they will come into force from September 2023.

These changes will be beneficial to the school community, bringing us into line with the government White Paper proposal that all schools deliver a standard school week of 32.5 hours which is aimed at having a positive effect on your child's education.

The information in this letter has also been sent to staff, governors, after-school club providers and the school bus company. We will make sure we all work together so that there is minimal disruption.

I appreciate the proposed changes may affect you, in terms of childcare or working arrangements, and in terms of your child's education. For this reason, I would like to invite you to give your feedback by sending your responses to me via the survey set up on school spider via your individual schools' website.

The consultation will open on Monday 17th April until Friday 12th May 2023. We will release the results of the consultation by Friday 26th May 2023.

Yours sincerely,



Nic Badger

Executive Headteacher for Rural Church Schools Academy Trust
Principal of Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary



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