

01 July 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

**Consultation to change the times of the School Day and Term Dates for academic year 2026/2027**

We, the Governing Body of Shuttleworth College write to you further to our correspondence on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026 regarding proposed changes to the times of the school day and the term dates for academic year 2026/2027.

We would like to begin by thanking all stakeholders who took the time to engage with the consultation; we have been very pleased with the depth of feedback that was provided.

**Proposed changes to the times of the school day**

Following a detailed analysis, the majority of responses support the school's proposal to change the times of the school day, and these changes will therefore be adopted from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026 in line with the below schedule:

Time	Session
8.30am	Registration
9am - 10am	Lesson 1
10am -11am	Lesson 2
11am – 11.20am	Break
11.20am – 12.20pm	Lesson 3
12.20pm – 1.20pm	Lesson 4
1.20pm – 2pm	Lunch
2pm – 2.55pm	Lesson 5
2.55pm	Staggered end to the day*

*\*Period 5 will end at 2.55pm, giving students time to go back to form rooms and collect their mobile phone, which will naturally lead to a staggered end of the day*

The benefits of this were widely acknowledged including:

- A consistent timetable being much more convenient and easier for students to follow, particularly for students with SEND.
- Extension of lunchtime giving more time for students to queue and eat.
- The availability of the Sports Hall to support a wider range of activities in PE and extra-curricular activities.
- Positive implications for staff wellbeing and workload.
- Ability to offer extra-curricular clubs at lunchtime.

Further to this, having had the opportunity to do some further work on the proposed timetable for September, the leadership team within school have reported the change in the school day would result in a 70% reduction in 'split classes' (where students are taught a subject by multiple different teachers).

### Addressing concerns

As expected, some concerns regarding the impact of the proposed changes were also received as part of the consultation. We have given serious consideration to these concerns in conjunction with the leadership team and are able to offer the following reassurances.

- Concerns for queues and how all students are going to get lunch and have time to eat within the timeframes given.  
*The school is increasing the number of serving points and is also splitting the serving of food across the ground floor and first floor. Additional time has also been given at lunchtime (increase from 30 to 40 minutes) to mitigate for this. Initially, for the first half term, Year 7 will go to lunch slightly earlier than other year groups whilst they become accustomed.*
- Concerns about all students being together and bullying implications.  
*Year groups will be grouped together (similar to the school's current model) to determine which area of the school they are served food from and then will be split into year group 'zones' where each year group will have their own external space to gather. There are plans for a high staff to student ratio for staff on duty at lunchtime to enable a quick response to any arising issues and our Heads of Year will be available at break and lunch for students to approach with any concerns.*
- Concerns around the timing of lunch and that this is quite late at 1.20pm.  
*The internal data of the school shows that having just one teaching period after lunch significantly improves engagement and behaviour. Further to this, with break time at 11am, there is only a 2-hour period between the end of break and lunch. Students can get food at the schools' free breakfast club up until 8.20am and are then able to eat again at 11am and 1.20pm. For students on free school meals, there will be an option for them to use some of their allowance to get food at breaktime.*

### Proposed changes to term dates

The response to the changes to term dates were overwhelmingly positive and as such, the governing board is able to confirm the changes to term dates for 2026/27 as overleaf:

Date	Previous arrangements	Confirmed arrangements for September 2026
02/09/2026	All students return to school	New Year 7 intake only. All other year groups not expected in school.
03/09/2026	All students in school	Year 7, 8 and 9 in school. Year 10 & 11 not expected in school.
04/09/2026	All students in school	The same arrangement – all year groups expected in school.
04/01/2027	All students return to school	Year 11 only are in school. Years 7-10 return Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January.

### Addressing concerns

A minority of respondents felt the staggered return to school for Years 8, 9, 10 & 11 was unnecessary. However, most responses praised this approach recognising the positive impact on transition and preparation for the school year.

### Moving ahead

The Governing Body has carefully considered all feedback received and is confident that the proposed changes to both the school day and term dates will provide meaningful benefits for students, staff, and the wider school community. We believe these adjustments will enhance the overall educational experience, support wellbeing, and improve the smooth running of the school day.

We would like to thank all those who contributed to the consultation for their valuable input and continued support. Should you have any further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours faithfully,



Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Body  
Shuttleworth College



Think BIG



SUCCEED TOGETHER

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