

SJB/JRu 23 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

It's been quite a term, but it has been so lovely to see our community back together again and working so hard. We realise that our new way of working has taken everyone's energy and I can't thank you enough for your support over the past weeks. COVID has changed the normal feel of the school and it is clear that we are still adjusting to how we do things, how we manage our days and, of course, how we manage ourselves!

Reflecting on how we maintain our energy going forward and how we balance the wellbeing of everyone at Dene Magna, from Monday 2 November the following changes will be implemented, none of which affect the amount of teaching hours for lessons.

The first change is that the school day will finish at 3.05pm which will enable the following to happen:

- 1. We will be stopping the 15 minute break in the afternoon for Y7, Y8, Y9 and Y10. Students will just go straight from P4 to P5. Buses will arrive at 3.05pm to take students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 home at this time. This means the 'late bus' will get the students home a little earlier.
- 2. Period 6, for Year 11 students only, will then run from 3.05pm to 4.05pm. Students will go straight from period 5 into period 6, without a break. The buses will arrive in time for a 4.05pm pickup to ensure that students get home before it is dark.
- 3. The Sixth Form's lunch will now be between 12.35pm and 1.05pm. Period 4 will start at 1.05pm and P5 will end at 3.05pm.

The nights are drawing in and we are very aware of how tired everyone is. With this in mind we are very keen to try to help and thought this would make a difference to everyone. These changes are linked to our COVID responses and will go on until February half term in the first instance.

We hope you all have a wonderful, restful half term and as ever thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Brady Headteacher

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