



Our Lady and All Saints
Catholic Multi Academy Company
Strong in Faith

ST. EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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Proposed changes to the school day for September 2026 Notification of Stakeholders and Consultation Opening

Dear Parents/Carers,

St Edward's governors are currently looking at many alternatives in order to effectively use the diminishing school budget, yet still provide the most caring and purposeful learning experiences; enabling your child to fulfil their God given potential becoming a successful learner and citizen.

One of the options that has been proven to save a large sum of money is to amend teaching times so the school could close early for the mandatory provision of teachers' planning, preparation and assessment time (PPA) on a Friday.

In a response to the government funding provided for our School Budget for next year, one of the ideas we are proposing is to adopt this early close on a Friday to eliminate the cost of cover for teachers during their Planning, Preparation & Assessment (PPA) time, which they are legally entitled to but it comes at a considerable cost to school as the children still need to be taught during this time.

Several schools within our Archdiocese, are already using this strategy to good effect and many more schools are also consulting with their parents/carers.

Our plan is to make changes to the timings of the school days so that:

- no child misses out on any valuable learning time,
- all teachers get their PPA without the need for cover,
- the school makes the financial savings necessary to keep the school functioning efficiently to provide the best education possible for our children,
- reduce risk of needing to reduce contracted hours of staff or even making redundancies (Long term)

We are proposing that we finish school earlier on a Friday, at 2.00 pm, to eliminate the need for PPA cover which will mean we make considerable financial savings without reducing the amount of time spent teaching each week. We would also like to start the school day **5 minutes** earlier with our opening at 8.40am and then adding **10 minutes** onto the end of the day (Monday to Thursday). This would ensure that the children receive the same quality of education that they receive now and that we are following the DfE Non-Statutory Guidance of 32.5 hours in school per week.

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Pre school and Nursery will continue to be open Monday-Friday. Using your funded or unfunded hours. There will be a paid option for your child to be in school 3.00pm-3.30pm Monday-Thursday.

Please see the table below for more details.

	As it stands now
School Day Monday - Friday	8.45-3.20
Daily Hours	6 hours and 35 minutes
Weekly Hours	32 hours and 55 minutes

	Proposed September 2026
School Day Monday - Thursday	8.40-3.30
Daily Hours	6 hours and 50 minutes
Friday	8.40-2.00
Daily Hours	5 hours and 20 minutes
Weekly Hours	32 hours and 40 minutes

We understand that this may seem like quite a drastic measure in order to save money which is why we are giving you all as much information as possible to help you understand why we are making such a proposal.

Childcare Arrangements

We appreciate that some parents may have concerns about childcare arrangements on a Friday and the extra cost they may incur. In order to address these concerns and support families, the school would propose to allow children to stay in school until 3:30pm. This session would be ran by an external agency. There would be a **COST** to families for this additional time in school. If uptake for this session is low there is a risk that this would not be viable to run. **There will be no Wraparound facilities 3.30pm-4.30pm on a Friday from September 2026. Wraparound will continue as normal on a Monday-Thursday**

Proposed start date

If the plan were to go ahead, this would be from September 2026. School operating hours would be evaluated regularly to ensure that they meet the needs of the school and our community.

Consultation

The decision to change school hours for our school lies with the Board of Directors of Our Lady and All Saints Multi Academy Company. Whilst there does not formally need to be a consultation with stakeholders, this is important to us. Please note this is a consultation process for the Board of Directors and our Local Board to gauge parents'/carers' views. The matter has been discussed with the teaching staff and they will be able to share their views as part of this process.

Consultation with parents/carers and staff will **end on Monday 27th April 2026.**

Questions

Any questions or comments can be raised via the following options:

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- Written views should be addressed by Friday 24th April 2026 via emails to admin3503@welearn365.com
- We will hold a drop in session for any queries about this proposed change on Friday 17th April at 9.00am.

When will a decision be made?

Once our consultation concludes, a report will be formulated and the findings will be presented to the board of directors. They will consider the report and feedback to aid them to decide in their board meeting. This will take place before the end of the summer term in July and we will communicate their decision with you as soon as possible after their meeting.

Further Issues: School Funding

We also urge you to write to you MP, Rachel Taylor, to express your concern at the measures that school are having to take to balance school budgets- inadequate school funding is a problem that is not going away and could affect your child and future generations.

Kind Regards

Mrs L Flanagan

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