



Knox Academy

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To Parent/Carer

East Lothian Council – Common School Day

Please find attached some information, from East Lothian Council, on the Common School Day. As you will see, Knox Academy will move to this on 3rd June 2019, which is the date we start our new timetable. East Lothian Council is still compiling a 'Frequently Asked Questions' document and once they have done this we will add this to the school website.

Yours sincerely

S Cook
Head Teacher



East Lothian Council

East Lothian Council – Common School Day

Parent and Pupil Support

Outcome of the Feasibility Study and Consultation Process

In June 2018 Cabinet approved a non-statutory feasibility study to inform a decision about the future structure of the secondary school day.

Following this approval a feasibility study and consultation was launched. A subsequent outcome report was presented to Cabinet in December 2018 and approval was granted for:

- The phased implementation of a common secondary school day, including the necessary changes to any affected primary school and specialist provision
- The introduction of an agreed period allocation per week for all secondary schools to support consortia arrangements

Rationale

The rationale for change is based around opportunities for consortia arrangements widening senior phase provision to meet the needs of young people as outlined in the Scottish Governments 15-24 Learner Journey Review 2018.

Launch date

All secondary schools in East Lothian Council will move towards a Common School Day/Week by June 2020 however it has been planned such that this will be achieved over two phases.

Dunbar Grammar, Knox Academy and Musselburgh Grammar School will launch in phase 1. These schools will begin their new timetabled structure on 3 June 2019.

North Berwick High School, Preston Lodge High School and Ross High School will launch in phase 2. This will take place in June 2020.

Decisions around the phasing were taken by Head Teachers and are based around the schools readiness for implementation.

Structure, period timings and opening/closing of the School Day

Monday to Thursday inclusive

8.30-8.40	8.40-9.30	9.30-10.20	10.20-11.10	11.10-11.25	11.25-12.15	12.15-1.05	1.05-1.45	1.45-2.35	2.35-3.25
Registration	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Break	Period 4	Period 5	Lunch	Period 6	Period 7

Friday

8.30-8.40	8.40-9.30	9.30-10.20	10.20-10.35	10.35-11.25	11.25-12.15
Registration	Period 1	Period 2	Break	Period 3	Period 4

Registration

All pupils will have a 10 minute period at the start of each day – the purpose and content of which will be defined by individual schools.

S1 to S3

Pupils will follow a broad general education until the senior phase in line with the principles of a Curriculum for Excellence.

Individual secondary schools have the flexibility and autonomy to ensure that all CfE entitlements are being provided including personalisation and choice.

Every pupil will receive 32 50 minute lessons per week.

S4 to S6

Pupils in the senior phase will make choices around SQA and other tariff based qualifications.

Opportunities to pursue courses and learning opportunities beyond their individual school will exist through the Schools College Partnership and other partner agencies.

Exciting opportunities such as Foundation Apprenticeships and work based learning will be offered as part of the schools consortia arrangements

Pupils will receive an equivalent of 32 50 minute lessons per week which can be tailored to suit their individual needs.

Individual schools have the autonomy to determine how many subjects a pupil is expected to study across each stage in the senior phase.

Coursing discussions should be unaffected by the structural changes but will include robust and supported discussion around the wider opportunities available to every young person in line with their prior attainment and career aspirations.

Schools will take steps to ensure that no pupil misses any learning nor their lunchtime entitlement as a result of travel requirements.

Transport Arrangements

To and From Secondary schools

The Transport and Education Services are working and will continue to work closely together to ensure that school services will adapt to align with the changes to the school day. Once definitive routes and timetables are known – further information will be made available.

Schools College Partnership

SCP courses will begin at 1.30pm and conclude at 4pm on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon.

Once the demand and specifics are known from each school, transport will be planned for travel to and from each SCP destination.

The transport plan can only be publicised after the senior phase course choice process for S4 to S6 pupils is complete.

All travel will be accessed through Young Scot cards as far as is possible. Alternative arrangements will be put in place for specific individual circumstances.

Primary School Alignment / Implications

As a result of the changes to the start and finish times for the Secondary schools there are some Primary schools that will need to amend their opening and closing times in line with the new contractual transport arrangements.

Phase 1 – By June 2019

Dunbar Cluster – West Barns Primary

Haddington Cluster – Haddington Primary and St Mary's Primary

Musselburgh Cluster – no changes

Phase 2 – By June 2020

North Berwick Cluster – Law Primary

Prestonpans Cluster – no changes

Tranent Cluster – no changes

Active Schools - Extra-Curricular

With a 3.25pm finish Active Schools can now begin their extra-curricular provision earlier. Pupils can now benefit from clubs and activities that are longer in duration.

Frequently Asked Questions

These are being collated at present and will be added to our website in the near future