

Consultation on the length of the school day at SGS Berkeley Green UTC

I would like your views on our proposal to implement a minor change to the UTC working week to be introduced from September 2018. Currently our day runs from 9am to 16:20pm – significantly longer than a standard school day, allowing us to deliver 30 hours of contact time per week. The proposal is to introduce an early, 1.30pm finish on a Friday, reducing contact time to 28 hours. Whilst we recognise that the longer day was designed to prepare students for the world of work, we also recognise that the work place is changing, and the traditional 9-5 working hours are becoming more flexible with different timings and working from home arrangements. Also, from our recent surveys we have found that both students and staff are finding the long working week difficult to manage especially when we consider that many travel for up to an hour to get here.

We can achieve the proposed change to the UTC week without any reduction in teaching time for examination subjects and employer projects. Students will have reduced time for supervised private study during the UTC week and as such will be required to complete some of their independent study work at home.

Staff will be on site on Friday afternoon using this valuable time for professional development, collaborative planning and marking. Currently staff training cannot start until 4.30pm which means staff don't leave before 6pm before starting their individual planning and marking later in the evening.

Applegates Coaches who run the majority of our bus services are able to accommodate this change. Stagecoach who run the 62 bus to Bristol have yet to confirm. A worst case scenario is if Stagecoach can not meet our requirements, then students on this service could either arrange alternative transport or attend supervised study on a Friday afternoon and catch the 4.20pm bus as they do the other four nights of the week.

The consultation for these proposed changes opens today, Friday 11th May 2018, and closes on Friday 15th June 2018. Responses will be considered throughout the consultation period and a final decision will be communicated on Tuesday 10th July 2018 after the SGS Academy Trust Board have made their decision. If the proposals are agreed, it will allow a period of almost 8 weeks before the new arrangements come into operation. Feedback on the proposal should be completed via the attached form or by emailing us at office@berkeleygreenutc.org.uk

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Name.....

Contact details (email/phone)

Role (please select) student/parent/carer/governor/employer partner/ other

View

I am **in favour / against** the proposal to change the length of the school day at SGS Berkeley Green UTC (please select)

Further comments

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