



The Governing Body of Milford Haven School
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT



TOGETHER ASPIRE, TOGETHER ACHIEVE.

Gyda'n gilydd, ymdrechwn... Gyda'n gilydd, cyflawnwn...

January 2020

Milford Haven School - Asymmetric Week from September 2020

The Governing Body of Milford Haven School would like to consult pupils, parents, staff, the Local Authority and the trade unions on a change to:

- a) the start and end times of the school day;
- b) changes to the length of the school day on Mondays and Fridays.

The following information given is in respect of legal duties with regard to the Welsh Statutory Instruments 2009 No. 572 (W.54) and the Changing of School Session Times (Wales) Regulations 2000.

Legal Duties

- Pupils have to receive at least 380 sessions of education in an academic year.
- An academic year has 195 days, 5 of which will be designated as Staff Training Days, so therefore pupils have to be in school for 190 days. However, there will be an additional Staff Training Day in academic year 2020-2021 to prepare for the New Curriculum. This will mean pupils will be in school for 189 days.
- Some of the staff training days are designated by Pembrokeshire County Council, Welsh Government and some are designated by the Governing Body.
- In Wales, term dates are set by Welsh Government and are adopted by Pembrokeshire County Council.
- School day timings are not set by Welsh Government. The Governing Body of Milford Haven School may set the start and end times of the school day.
- The Governing Body of Milford Haven School may decide the structure, number and length of teaching periods and times of break times.
- The Governing Body must give at least three months' notice to parents when changing the time that a school session begins in the morning or ends in the afternoon.
- The changes to the school day must only take effect at the beginning of a school year.
- The am and pm session in the school day should be separated by a recreational break.



The proposed model for September 2020

Compressed school days can be beneficial to pupils, parents and staff. In other countries around the world, schools operate different models to suit the climate, the environment and the needs of the learners, whilst promoting flexibility in terms of working patterns of family members and the employed staff. Schools in Scotland frontload most of their teaching at the start of the week and closer to home, a similar model has been embraced by our Cluster of Schools (Coastlands School, Gelliswick Church in Wales VC School, Milford Haven Community Primary School, St Francis Catholic Primary School, Johnston Community Primary School & Neyland Community School). Ysgol Harri Tudur in Pembroke has also adopted a compressed working day model. Many schools throughout Wales, and the British Isles as a whole, run a myriad of different working day models.

Pupils will continue to meet the Welsh Government teaching time; it is simply reallocating some of it to different days of the week and shortening the amount of time allocated throughout the 'working week'. There are also plans to change the structure of the school day and length of the time allocated to lessons at Milford Haven School.

Milford Haven School will be an innovative forward thinking 21st Century school and wants to implement significant change. Introducing a different school day structure is part of this change.

The proposed model for the working school day is outlined below.

Proposal for the school day for September 2020	Monday - Thursday		Friday	
Period 1	8.40am	9.35am	8.40am	9.35am
ASPIRE	9.35am	9.45am	9.35am	9.45am
Period 2	9.45am	10.40am	9.45am	10.40am
Break 1	10.40am	11.10am	10.40am	11.10am
Period 3	11.10am	12.05pm	11.10am	12.05pm
Period 4	12.05pm	1.00pm	12.05pm	1.00pm
Break 2	1.00pm	1.30pm	<i>*Some pupils may be asked to remain in school beyond 1.00pm</i>	
Period 5	1.30pm	2.25pm		
Period 6	2.25pm	3.20pm		
End of formal learning	3.20pm		1.00pm	

Expectations of pupils- the proposed model for September 2020

- Pupils may come onto the school site from 8am.
- Pupils should be on site by 8.30am at the latest and be fully equipped and ready to learn.
- A bell rung at 8.35am will inform pupils that lessons begin in five minutes time and will be the signal for pupils to go straight to their period 1 lesson.
- The school day at Milford Haven School would begin with formal learning at 8.40am with period 1. ASPIRE time and Period 2 would follow before a 30-minute break 1. There will be a further two 55-minute periods before break 2, again for 30 minutes, before the afternoon session, again of two 55-minute periods. There would be no afternoon session on a Friday.
- *Pupils who have not satisfactorily behaved in line with the expectations of the school behaviour code at Milford Haven School will be asked to remain in school on a Friday beyond 1.00pm to resolve outstanding issues and possibly partake in a restorative practice session and/or detention.
- Milford Haven School will provide a homework club from 1.00-2.25pm on a Friday afternoon, if parents would like their children to have the option of using this facility.
- Pupils would be able to go home on a Friday at 1.00pm or stay on site to have lunch if they wish. Lunch will always be available on a Friday from 1.00-1.30pm. Coaches will leave the school site at 1.00pm.



- Pupils will be on the school site all day and will not be permitted to leave the site at break times, as is current policy. Food can be purchased from the canteen, or pupils may bring a packed lunch.
- Sixth form students will be able to leave the building during break times if they wish.
- Both break 1 and break 2 will each be 30 minutes long.
- Pupils may leave school on a Monday - Thursday at 3.20pm and a Friday at 1.00pm when formal learning will finish.
- It is envisaged that there will be a growing number of enrichment and after school clubs for pupils to participate in.

The advantages of the proposed model for September 2020

- A shorter working day is beneficial for wellbeing, with pupils and staff able to benefit from this.
- An earlier start time would enable many parents to coordinate taking siblings to other schools or needing to be at their own workplaces earlier.
- An earlier finish would enable more time for participation in out of school activities, clubs, sporting activities, revision clubs, musical pursuits, etc.
- The earlier finish time on a Friday will -
 - Enable pupils, parents and staff to benefit from improved wellbeing through increased family time. There will also be opportunities to benefit from long weekends or spend time with friends or engage with sport, hobbies and informal learning. It would further support our parents who run and work in local businesses and mirror the flexibility in shift patterns shown by major employers in the local area. e.g. the nine-day fortnight operated by one of our region's major employers.
 - Enable enhanced professional learning opportunities and training for teaching and support staff; especially important in helping plan for the delivery of the New Curriculum.
 - Bring Milford Haven School inline with our Cluster of Schools who all also run an asymmetric week.
 - Alleviate the current issue of some families struggling for childcare on a Friday afternoon where younger siblings finish early in the local catchment of primary schools.
- Significantly improved opportunities to work with our Cluster of Schools that will benefit future pupils through improved staff-pupil relationships, earlier identification of need and support for both the social and emotional aspects of learning.

Yours sincerely

The Governing Body of Milford Haven School

