

**Up & coming dates**

Year 11 enrichment week 1: 24/5/2021  
May Half Term: Friday 28/5/2021  
Return to school: Monday 7/6/2021  
Y10 Parents' Evening: 9/6/2021

Friday 21/5/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Friday I had the pleasure of a visit to Todmorden Park with our Head Students and Mr Dewsnip. The purpose of our visit was to see progress made on the new Wheels Park which is great news for skateboard, scooter and BMX enthusiasts and has been designed for young and old, from beginners to those more experienced.

The design process has been fine-tuned with the help of Wheels Park users coordinated by Todmorden Town Council and young people from Todmorden High School. The Wheels Park will provide a much needed high quality facility for older children and young adults in Todmorden. It's fantastic to see our young people getting involved in shaping how the town can meet their needs and having the spotlight on their input and enthusiasm in such a positive way. I was really proud of how our students spoke to the team at the park, and am glad that we can be part of such a great scheme. Take a look at the full news report here:

<https://www.todmordennews.co.uk/news/environment/new-wheels-park-under-way-for-todmorden-3239112?fbclid=IwAR0wtBOY6Q8YMLfd8EuYy63PwPGHjl2of5tJLYU-2meeEmBy1BftMXePmiM>

In order to support a prompt arrival at school Todmorden High School staff perform a morning duty where students are greeted as they arrive at school and supported with any questions they may have first thing in the morning. In addition to this, staff shepherd students safely and calmly into school. With agreement from the shop on Burnley road we will continue to support students' prompt arrival by strongly discouraging entry to the shop from 8:40; in line with our value of care we will continue to assist with any item a student may be missing, or that they might need, first thing in the morning.

Please find below a proposed change to our school day. It is important to compare the proposed school day to our existing school day (the school day that was in operation prior to Covid). The school day operated this year has been an emergency response to the pandemic and although we will not maintain it, as we return to normality, we are trying to capitalise on some of the gains it has offered us.

The proposed day takes us back in line with the existing school day structure. Starting the day with lesson 1 and 2 followed by a toilet break then lesson 3 before lunch and lesson 4 and 5 after lunch.

The main differences between our proposed day and our existing school day are as follows:

- Having a focus session in the middle of the day, rather than the start of the day. This allows us to run a split lunch which has proved very effective in running a smooth and calm lunch service. It has reduced queueing time and increased the supervision ratio.
- Reducing the length of the morning break session. This, combined with moving focus session the middle of the day, enables an earlier lunch at either 11:50 or 12:20 [depending on year group].
- An earlier finish time of 14:50. This slightly earlier finish time would allow siblings to pick up from local primaries some of which have undertaken a similar restructure and are ending their school day slightly earlier.



Different elements of the proposed structure have been consulted on with staff, students and parents, via a questionnaire sent out within the weekly news on 26th March 2021 and again on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. We are now offering an opportunity to provide final feedback, on the proposed structure below, via the following link.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=V6IP4C5ZDkWYwW09OkgaWAjvJe8Zv2JAIQRp0bA1ABtURDZBSik3T1RaS1NNTFdWU1RBMDVLVzlaTi4u> or by using the QR code:



If you wish to discuss the proposed structure further please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Rawlinson on [e.rawlinson@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:e.rawlinson@todhigh.co.uk).

We will close this period on consultation on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May and publish the finalised structure week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Session	Session length	Time
<b>Lesson 1</b>	1hr	<b>8:40 – 9:40</b>
<b>Lesson 2</b>	1hr	<b>9:40 – 10:40</b>
<b>Break</b>	10 min	<b>10:40 – 10:50</b>
<b>Lesson 3</b>	1hr	<b>10:50 – 11:50</b>
<b>Lunch / Focus</b>	30 min	<b>11:50 – 12:20</b> Y7, Y9 and Y11 lunch Y8 and Y10 focus
<b>Lunch / Focus</b>	30 min	<b>12:20 – 12:50</b> Y8 and Y10 lunch Y7, Y9 and Y11 focus
<b>Lesson 4</b>	1hr	<b>12:50 – 13:50</b>
<b>Lesson 5</b>	1hr	<b>13:50 – 14:50</b>

We retain the start of the day as we have it - 84% of students are in favour of keeping this routine.

Feedback from students and staff indicated the desire for a short morning break.

Operate a split lunch with. 85% of students found the staggered lunch useful.

As we have now settled back into school we would very much like to obtain a student perception of the experiences they are currently having. This information will be very valuable to us as a school and contribute to our school development. Most students will be completing this survey during lesson time, but some will not have this opportunity, please do promote the completion of this by your child, their opinion is very important to us. Students can complete the survey at using this link

<https://forms.office.com/r/LTkD3p3aLJ>

Next week, each year (7-9) will sit one of their assessments in a more formal capacity in the hall, gym or Hive. This will help prepare students for their GCSEs by ensuring students are familiarised with the processes that take place during a formal assessment. We are confident that students will see the importance of getting used to sitting assessments in this manner. These assessments will take place periods 1 and 2 on the days outlined below;

Tuesday, year 7; Wednesday, year 8; Thursday, year 9.

A more significant timetable has been organised for year 10, this will be shared next week.

Last Wednesday I hosted the first session of a fortnightly parent drop-in session on TEAMS. The next time I will be live will be next week on the 26<sup>th</sup> between 3-4pm. I look forward to speaking to you there. You can access the event via the homepage on our website and upon entering the meeting you will be held in the lobby as part of a queue until I can speak to you, these slots are run on a first come, first served basis. If you don't manage to get through online, we will make every effort to get back to you. Please do pop and see me online if you have anything you want to discuss.

As always do get in touch if you have any questions.

Yours Sincerely,



Gill Shirt  
Headteacher