

Meadowfield School Swanstree Avenue Sittingbourne Kent ME10 4NL

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Miss Jill M. Palmer BSc, MA, MA, NPQH Executive Principal

16th June 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Consultation

Thank you for your reply to our consultation regarding 1:30pm pupils dismissal on Fridays from September 2022 so that the time can be dedicated to staff training. We received 62 responses from staff, 2 responses from 'other', and 116 responses from parents and carers. All of the responses were considered by members of the Governing Body and the Leadership Group and each and every comment was read and discussed. In addition, an Equality Impact Statement was completed which helped us to fairly consider the impact of the change which has been proposed.

The Governing Body and Leadership Group have carefully considered:

- All of the responses
- All of the additional comments provided
- The aims of the proposal
- Both the positive and negative impacts of the proposal on protected characteristic groups
- The impact of the pandemic on recruitment and retention of staff
- The demands on training, particularly as an expanding school
- A range of alternative options

Following thoughtful consideration and discussion, the Meadowfield Governors and Leadership have decided to cautiously proceed with the 1:30pm pupil dismissal on Fridays from September 2022 and will review in the Spring of 2023.

This change will run on a pilot basis from Autumn 2022 – Spring 2023. Governors and Senior Leaders will then consider:

- staff surveys re: the impact of the pilot
- pupil voice
- feedback from parents/carers
- impact on pupil progress data
- recruitment and retention data

We do appreciate that this pilot will impact on families but, with our growing pupil numbers and the increasingly complex medical and educational nature of our cohort, training is essential and requires constantly updating to ensure that we can fulfil all safeguarding legislation and provide the medical care our pupils require to access their education.

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We would like to assure all parents/carers that we will be monitoring to impact of this pilot and we will consult with you in the Spring of 2023. We hope that, given the range of this consultation and the depth of deliberation over the responses, that all stakeholders will now move with us to support this change to benefit all our pupils.

Yours faithfully

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Jill Palmer

**Executive Principal** 

Roberta Kane

Chair of Governors









