

Meadowfield School Swanstree Avenue Sittingbourne Kent ME10 4NL

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

21st June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Friday Afternoon Consultation Outcome

Thank you for your participation in our recent consultation regarding pupil dismissal at 1:30pm on Fridays. This earlier dismissal was implemented in September 2022 on a trial basis in order to provide training for school staff on a range of topics relating to medical needs, health & safety, pupil behavioural support and approaches to supporting pupil learning and wellbeing.

Governors have considered survey responses and feedback from staff, parents, pupils and the school nursing team. Governors have also considered detail of the training programme, research and analysis by Ofsted on Teachers' professional development and the impact of the training.

It has been decided that the 1:30pm pupil dismissal will continue in the 2023-2024 academic year and will be reviewed on an annual basis.

In reference to parental responses:

- 1. we received a total of 73 responses (representing 18% of our families)
- 2. of the 73 responses, 33 replied 'yes' (representing 8.3% of our families)
- 3. of the 73 responses, 40 replied 'no' (10% of our families)
- 4. 327 of our families did not respond to the survey (81.6%)

Staff were overwhelmingly supportive of the opportunity for training on Fridays to continue, citing improved confidence and skill in dealing with the ever-increasing range of complex pupil needs and the nursing team shared that they are able to conduct medical training more effectively and regularly than ever before.

Governors acknowledge the challenges that the early dismissal time presents to some families but also the many positive opportunities that were relayed to us.

Governors wish to ensure that our dedicated and hardworking staff have the tools they need to meet the needs of each and every pupil; that Meadowfield is a safe place to learn and provide the best outcomes towards preparing our young people for adulthood and that we are continually improving to ensure the highest quality provision.

We thank you for your continued support as partners in our children's education.

Best Wishes & Warmest Regards,

Yours faithfully

Jill M. Palmer Executive Principal Meadowfield School Roberta Kane Chair of Governors Meadowfield School

