

Proposal to change the length of the school day

The Government has recently issued new recommendations on the length of the school day with schools now having to offer a minimum of 32.5 hours schooling each week. As a result, we will need to extend the school day slightly at Rushey Green and I am writing to give you advanced notice of our proposals to do this.

Currently the official start time in our school is 9 a.m. Anyone arriving after this time is classified as late. As you know, we have encouraged children into school at 8.45 a.m. for many years now.

To ensure the school complies with Government recommendations **we are proposing to move the official start time for all children in school to 8.50am**. Anyone arriving after this time would subsequently be classified as late. **The school day will also end slightly later - at 3.20pm**. Should this change be approved by the Governing body, it will come into force from the first day back after summer holiday which is Tuesday 4th September 2023.

Although this is a Government-led change I do believe that the extra time in school will be beneficial to your child's education. Primary age children learn best early in the morning and being in school slightly earlier should have a positive impact on their learning.

We believe that this change will cause minimal disruption to the vast majority of families, as most children are already on site at 8.40am anyway. However, I appreciate that these changes may affect a small minority in terms of childcare or working arrangements. For this reason, I would like to invite you to give your feedback by sending your responses to admin@rusheygreen.lewisham.sch.uk before midday on the 23rd June so that these can be considered before a final decision is made.

The information in this letter has also been sent to the local authority.

We will confirm any changes by Friday 7th July 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Williams

Headteacher

FAQ

1. What time can I drop off my children?

To support children to arrive in class on time, we will open the school gates at 8.40am to allow children time to get into class.

2. Can my child walk to school alone?

Only children in year 5 and 6 can walk to school alone. Permission from the headteacher needs to be given to do this.