

Infant Site

School Lane,
Winfrith Newburgh,
Dorset
DT2 8JL

Tel: 01929 400330

www.lulworthwinfrith.dorset.sch.uk



Junior Site

School Lane,
West Lulworth,
Dorset,
BH20 5SA

Email: lwps.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs E Griffiths

24th April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Consultation on Proposed Changes to the School Day

We are seeking your views on proposed changes to the structure of the school day at Lulworth & Winfrith CE Primary School, with changes proposed to take effect from September 2025.

In July 2023, following a consultation, we implemented a change to the school day so that pupils on both sites (Lulworth and Winfrith) start at 8:45am and finish at 3:15pm. While this met the Department for Education's (DfE) expectations for a minimum school week of 32.5 hours, it has since become clear that this arrangement presents operational challenges—particularly for parents/carers and transport providers managing drop-offs and collections at both sites. We are therefore now proposing to stagger the start and finish times of the two sites in order to ease congestion, reduce lateness, and support a smoother experience for families with children at both locations.

The DfE's non-statutory guidance on the minimum school week recommends that all state-funded mainstream schools should provide a minimum of 32.5 hours per week of education for all pupils. This guidance allows flexibility in how schools structure the school day, as long as they meet this minimum threshold. Our proposed changes fully comply with this guidance.

Proposed Changes

From September 2025, the proposed changes are:

- Winfrith Site (Infant pupils: Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)
 - Start time: 8:35am
 - Finish time: 3:05pm
 - Total: 6.5 hours per day / 32.5 hours per week
- Lulworth Site (Junior pupils: Years, 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6)
 - Start time: 8:50am
 - Finish time: 3:20pm
 - Total: 6.5 hours per day / 32.5 hours per week

Rationale for Change

- Current identical start/end times at both sites are difficult for families with children at both locations.
- Minibus transport is often delayed due to the logistics of simultaneous site arrivals.
- The new proposal ensures both sites remain compliant with the DfE's 32.5-hour minimum week while easing operational pressures.

- Starting earlier at the Winfrith site and slightly later at the Lulworth site will help reduce late arrivals and improve the start of the school day for all pupils.

Consultation Process

We are now launching a period of consultation and invite all parents/carers, staff, and stakeholders to share their views on this proposed change.

- Consultation opens: Thursday 24th April 2025
- Consultation closes: Wednesday 21st May 2025
- Decision shared with families: After May half term and during week commencing 2 June 2025
- Changes take effect: September 2025

How to Respond

Please share your views via the following online form: [Consultation on Proposed Timings for the School Day \(September 2025\)](#)

Alternatively, you may email comments to: lwps.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk

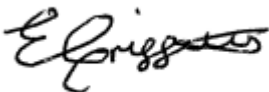
All responses will be considered before a final decision is made by the Governing Board. The outcome will be communicated to all families in early June, ensuring at least 6 weeks of notice before September and allowing time for any required transport arrangements to be made.

Further Information

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Thank you for taking the time to engage in this important consultation.

Yours sincerely,



Ellie Griffiths

Headteacher