

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Re: Change to the school day for year 7, 8, 9 and 11**

I am delighted by the positive start to the new academic year that the Compass community has made. It has been a real pleasure to meet so many of you, and to observe the hard work and commitment of our teaching colleagues to provide such a distinct education for our boys and girls.

As we continue to strive to achieve the best outcomes for our pupils, we have taken a decision to change the school day from 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018. This decision, made with the full support of governors, will help us to provide the best support for all year groups to achieve their academic goals.

### **School funding arrangements**

Schools nationally are going through a period of fiscal challenge and growing schools like Compass have been especially hard hit by the unique way we are funded. Furthermore, our school currently sustains a timetable that is 7 hours per week more than we receive funding for.

### **New school day**

The key stage 3 timetable will change from 32 hours of teaching per week to 29 hours, which will mean that formal lessons for Year 7, 8 and 9 end at 3:30pm Monday to Thursday and at 2:30pm on Friday. Lunch will be served from 1-1:30pm.

Pupils will still receive 4 hours more teaching than funding permits and we will maintain 2 hours of our signature enrichment programme as part of the timetabled day. The school will continue to offer our newly launched Night Club study support till 6pm Monday to Thursday, and we will also put in place additional voluntary enrichment activities.

### **Helping pupils achieve their GCSE goals**

Year 10 pupils will continue their current school day for the rest of this year.

In order to provide Year 11 with the best support for their GCSE studies, pupils will move to a 35 hour week from 3<sup>rd</sup> January with compulsory interventions built into their timetables according to their individual needs. Their formal school day will finish at 5:30pm Monday to Wednesday, 4:30pm on Thursday and 3:30pm on Friday. The library will also be open until 6:00pm for the Night Club.

### **Looking ahead**

As we continue to work with the City of London Academies Trust, there are significant benefits to aligning our school day with CoLA. These include enabling additional options subjects to be available to our boys and girls, by being taught across schools.

#### **Changes from 3<sup>rd</sup> January:**

- **Yr 7-9 school day ends 3:30pm Monday - Thursday and 2:30pm Friday. Lunch from 1:00-1:30pm**
- **Yr 11 school day ends 5:30pm Monday - Thursday and 3:30pm Friday**
- **Yr 10 and 11 lunch from 2:00-2:30pm**

**Find out more**

These changes to our timetable have been considered and taken with the best interests of our pupils in mind at all times. I also fully appreciate that parents and carers might like the chance to learn more about these changes, and to have the opportunity to ask questions. As such, members of the leadership team and I will host information sessions on:

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 5:30pm – Seminar Room

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 3:45pm – 4:15pm – Seminar Room

I very much look forward to having the occasion to discuss the benefits of these adjustments with you. If you are unable to attend either of the sessions and would like the opportunity to speak to someone, please email [info@compass-schools.com](mailto:info@compass-schools.com).

Yours sincerely,



Marcus Huntley  
Principal