

Our ref: CBY
27th April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Consultation on Times of the Day

I am contacting all parents/carers to consult on a proposal to alter the start and end timings of the day at Q3 Academy Great Barr. Over the last few terms, I have observed much with regard to the organisation of the school, listened to student and staff feedback, and considered the best ways to maximise learning opportunities in all we do. Given the most recent information from government on mobile phones, I feel this is an appropriate time to make some changes.

In summary, the proposal is to start at 8.40am and finish at 3.10pm each day.

Currently, the school day commences at 8.45am and finishes at 3.15pm. The proposal is based upon a **removal of Tutor Time in the afternoon. However, there is no reduction to the overall length of the day itself.** Having listened to staff, students, and parents/carers, there is an opportunity to change some of our internal processes, like handing in mobile phones to focus on students taking responsibility for their own phones and not having to collect these in and distribute them at the end of the day.

This will allow us to have a more purposeful start and a more effective end of the day. Instead of handing phones in to their Personal Tutors, each student will have a lockable pouch that will be checked in the morning and can then only be unlocked at the end of the day. This will avoid students having their phones out in the building.



Image of an example phone pouch and the magnetic locking system



Making these changes will benefit our community:

- As students will be released to unlock their phones from 3pm, parents/carers will have more time to pick them up before collecting siblings from local schools.
- There is no change in the student arrival time from the recommended time currently, so punctuality will be reinforced.
- Using phone pouches is more secure, and there is less risk of loss or damage.
- Detentions, clubs, and interventions will start and finish earlier which is a particular benefit in the darker winter months.
- It will allow for a smoother end to the day and will help manage the flow of students leaving through the gate.
- This improves safeguarding because it reduces occurrences where students may use phones on site at the start and end of the day.

As an Academy, we have the ability to set our own start and finish time, but this supervised period at the start and end of the day allows us to maintain our commitment to the government guidance of offering 32.5 hours a week of education.

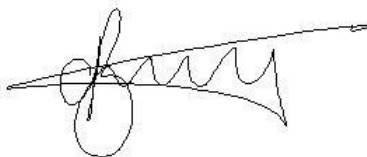
The majority of our students are already on site at 8.30am, ready to start the day, and punctuality is generally excellent. By changing the timings in the morning and afternoon, the emphasis on continued progress and attainment of our students can be reinforced. Having our end of day routine managed centrally allows staff to focus on the importance of teaching through the day. Duty staff will be on hand to supervise students after 3.10pm as per our current practice.

These proposed changes would come into effect from September 2026 and would envisage no reason to deviate from these new changes.

If you would like to submit any feedback about this proposed change to the timing of the day, please [submit this feedback form](#) by Friday 22nd May 2026 at 3pm. All comments will be reviewed before writing to parents/carers with the outcome after May half term.

Many thanks for your attention to this consultation process. I look forward to your feedback and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Bury
Headteacher