



## Kirkcaldy Locality FAQs

FAQ	Response
<p><b>Will an earlier start to the school day increase lateness to period 1</b></p>	<p><i>Many young people are already in and arriving to school before 8.40am. Almost all young people are in school and attend the current start of the school day on time.</i></p> <p><i>All Kirkcaldy Secondary schools either operate a breakfast club or plan to start a breakfast club that allows young people to get a free breakfast in school and start the day positively.</i></p> <p><i>The start time of the school day will align with the school buses and therefore there should be no impact on lates for young people travelling by school bus.</i></p>
<p><b>Will the school buses align to the proposed school day timings?</b></p>	<p><i>Yes, Fife Council are currently reviewing bus contracts in line with the proposed timings. This is still to be confirmed by both Fife Council and the bus companies. Further information about bus pick up / drop off times will be shared following conclusion of contracts.</i></p>
<p><b>We live outside of the school catchment area and our child gets a service bus. The current service bus does not align to the proposed school day. How will this affect my child?</b></p>	<p><i>The service buses routinely change timetables and therefore the times may not align to current / proposed timings. These changes are out with our control. It remains the responsibility of parents / carers to ensure that their young person arrives in school, on time.</i></p>
<p><b>I am concerned that my child will leave school at the end of the day and return home before an adult is home. Will there be provision on a Friday afternoon for my child?</b></p>	<p><i>Fife Council are currently working with partners to review the current and future provisions for Friday afternoons from August 2024. It is not the expectation that schools will organise provision on Friday afternoons.</i></p>

<p><b>Will my child still have enough time to get lunch and socialise during the revised break and lunch timings?</b></p>	<p><i>On average, the service time for young people currently using school lunch provision takes around 10-15 minutes. We are confident that any increase in the numbers of young people accessing this provision will be manageable. If young people choose to leave the school premises for lunch, it remains the responsibility of the young person to return to school on time. It would be helpful if you discussed this with your child to support us.</i></p>
<p><b>The proposed change to the school day Monday – Thursday is longer than the current school times. I am worried my child may not cope with this.</b></p>	<p><i>We recognise that change can be difficult and there are a range of supports available for any young person who may require this. If you're worried about anything, the first person you should contact is your child's Guidance Teacher. All secondary schools in the Kirkcaldy locality are making changes to the school day to accommodate enhanced partnership working between schools and to achieve equity of learning time in all settings. To reassure you, 25 other local authorities in Scotland operate this model and have for many, many years.</i></p>
<p><b>For schools that currently have 45-minute periods, what difference would an extra 5 minutes per period mean?</b></p>	<p><i>This will allow an increase in activity time in all subjects, particularly practical subjects, such as PE and HE. This maximises learning time for all young people and provides equity of learning time across all Kirkcaldy Secondary Schools. It also ensures all Kirkcaldy secondary schools have the same structure across each day, allowing better joint working arrangements across the schools and college to be in place for now and the future.</i></p>
<p><b>Is this a reduction in the teaching week and learning time?</b></p>	<p><i>No. All Kirkcaldy Secondary Schools will see an increase in learning time of between 30 – 75 minutes. This will ensure that all Kirkcaldy Secondary school learners will receive 27.5 hours learning time per week.</i></p>

**Why have the Kirkcaldy Secondary Schools chosen a Friday afternoon as a shorter pupil day?**

*All Kirkcaldy Secondary schools currently have different school days. This will allow all secondary schools across Kirkcaldy to align school day allowing for:*

- *A broader curriculum experience*
- *Greater opportunities to engage in work related learning and community volunteering*
- *Promotion of health and wellbeing and family time*
- *Improved outcomes for young people by facilitating collaborative work with staff and partners across the locality and other local authorities.*
- *Future professional leaning for staff across schools and other local authorities too, allowing for collaboration and sharing of best practice.*

## Kirkcaldy High School FAQs – Curriculum

FAQ	Response
<b>The proposed change in Curriculum leads to a reduction in teaching time for English and Maths. How will KHS ensure that young people continue to achieve success in these areas?</b>	<p><i>Literacy and Numeracy are areas that all staff and courses are responsible for within Curriculum for Excellence. Many of the experiences and outcomes are taught across multiple disciplines within our current curriculum. This is leading to repetition across learning and stagnating pupil success. The proposed change ensures we are enhancing the pupils' experiences.</i></p> <p><i>We will continue to work with our cluster schools to ensure that progress and transition in these areas are well planned.</i></p> <p><i>Moreover, all faculties and subjects within KHS, including Maths and English will be reviewing their courses and timelines to ensure that courses have the correct breadth, pace and challenge in order to ensure the proposed change is in no way detrimental to our pupils' experiences.</i></p> <p><i>Universal, targeted and intense support will be available, depending on need to ensure that young people learn at the appropriate level, pace and challenge to meet their needs and potential.</i></p>

**Why is Tutor being removed?**

*In September / October 2022, we consulted our community around Tutor time. Most young people did not feel that tutor was a valuable use of their day, whilst a small minority enjoyed tutor and found it helpful to start the day positively. Approx. 8% of young people did not attend tutor, but did attend P1.*

*We made changes to tutor this session but we still have around 3% of young people not attend. Those who do attend, regularly feel that it is not a valuable part of their day.*

*In addition, we now have in place a range of soft starts for different targeted groups within our school. These are led by PSO's, Support team and others and generally last until the end of P1. Any young person that requires support can speak to their Guidance teacher.*

*Lastly, the Scottish Government are currently reviewing a number of areas within education, one being 'Learning Time'. If the government mandate that all secondary pupils receive 27.5 hours of learning time is to be realised, tutor time would not be included in this (using the current working definition). This would lead to a further increase of time in school. We want to ensure that all young people get the maximum benefit of being in school and learning. Using tutor time to facilitate an addition period of learning will allow greater curriculum depth and support.*

**How will the Blue Bulletin and other school information be relayed to young people each day?**

*We will discuss this with staff, but the Blue Bulletin will continue to be shared with young people each morning. This may be at the start or end of P1 or beginning of P2. This will continue to be shared on the school website and X (twitter).*

**Why has Kirkcaldy High School decided to add 1 period of Social Education and 1 period of RME in S5/6? I would prefer that all learning time was focussed on subjects and qualifications.**

*As part of every young person's educational entitlement, young people should continue with social education and RME through to the end of S6.*

*Education is much more than just subjects and qualifications. With a rise in Mental health concerns, anxiety and young people feeling the pressure of their future, it's important that young people have time out of their subjects to develop their whole person – mentally, physically and academically.*

*Furthermore, following the Hayward review, there is a need to focus on broadening opportunities for young people in the senior phase.*

*Our local data and context suggest that Social Education is a necessary course for all young people and should continue.*

*For RME, this is a change but is part of the national curriculum entitlement.*

*We are working with our staff to ensure that there is a rich, broad course for both that will allow elements of choice and the opportunity for young people to gain accreditation / achievements through both courses. In particular, looking at skills for learning, life and work.*

**Currently, some music tuition takes place on a Friday. Will this be impacted with the change?**

*We are currently in discussion with partners to ensure that the same level of tuition and support is in place for young people. This may mean that their day for tuition changes but there would be no loss of music tuition as a result of the change.*