

Our Ref: IB/KM
Your Ref:
Contact:
Tel: 01236 812279
Fax: 01698 403021
E Mail: lls.enquiries@northlan.gov.uk
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Learning & Leisure Services

Isabelle Boyd CBE
Head of Education (Standards & Inclusion)
Municipal Buildings
Kildonan Street
Coatbridge ML5 3BT
www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk

To All Parents/Carers

Dear Parent/Carer

Introduction of a standardised 33 period week across North Lanarkshire secondary schools from session 2016-17

I write to inform you that your secondary school will be changing the configuration of its school day from August 2016. I am conscious that we made a change in 2013 but unfortunately the decision to allow individual schools to vary structures has resulted in a significant number of different approaches being adopted which is not delivering the anticipated opportunities for your sons and daughters.

I have been working with your Head Teacher for a number of months and as a result of our evaluation and research North Lanarkshire Council will now adopt a common model of 33 periods of 50 minutes in all secondary schools from August 2016. This will be accompanied by a co-ordinated approach to curriculum planning to ensure that the needs of all our young people are met.

The benefit of this standardised model is that it allows for increased curricular opportunities for pupils in the senior school as they can access a wider range of courses. The secondary Head Teachers have been working together on a uniform approach to curricular planning. This co-ordinated approach will ensure that the needs of all young people are met. We are implementing a common timetable for S5 and S6 in order to maximise choice for students. A wider range of courses will be on offer in the base school, in neighbouring schools and from our college partners.

The details of the new weekly configuration of the timetabled day are detailed below. Your Head Teacher will be able to answer any specific queries that you may have.

Day of Week	Start	Finish	Morning Break	Lunch Break
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday	8.55am	3.45pm	10.35am – 10.50am	12.30pm – 13.15pm
Wednesday, Friday	8.55am	2.55pm	10.35am – 10.50am	12.30pm – 13.15pm

Yours sincerely

Isabelle Boyd
Head of Education (Standards & Inclusion)