



15 September 2021

Dear parents/caregivers,

Great teachers have high expectations for their students, but even higher expectations for themselves – Dr Todd Whitaker

I have mentioned many times during the past 18 months how inspiring it has been to witness our school community improvise, adapt and overcome the challenges which face us, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

We've not only stepped up to change, we've embraced it, for the good of our families.

The State Schooling Improvement Strategy 2021-2025 '*Every student succeeding*' has its foundation on alignment, precision and intentional collaboration – the deliberate actions we take to work together, learn together and improve together.

Now, as we prepare in 2022 to commemorate 50 years of "*Education For Life*" at KSHS, we're considering ideas to ensure a learning legacy not only for your children, but for generations to come.

The new *KSHS Strategic Plan* will set our course into the second half of this decade.

The Plan will drive many exciting improvements in your child's learning and includes a change to school routine, to introduce a new finishing time for all students, on Monday afternoons commencing in 2022.

Classes would end at 2.15pm, after which time, teachers could dedicate the remaining 45 minutes with purpose for your children. There is no change to the dedicated teaching time for our learning areas.

Our staff have embraced it, and we hope you will too, and welcome your feedback.

This new period of time allocated specifically to teachers, would result in more curriculum collaboration for your children, more teacher accountability with regards to classroom performance and utilising across faculty and within faculty, alignment and planning opportunities, to implement new learning ideas and techniques, to get the very best outcomes for every student.

Already some schools, including Brisbane State High School (BSHS) have benefitted from teachers having a chance to formally collaborate. In the case of BSHS, this initiative was introduced four years ago, with impressive scholastic and community benefits.

While the role and demands on teachers has changed dramatically over recent decades, the number of hours allocated to class preparation and correction time hasn't changed since 1976! Our teachers are working harder than ever and welcome this move.

KSHS prides itself on being an education leader. It is proposed to implement this change from Term One, 2022.

We consider this change will have long-term benefits for our students in "*Education for Life*". I encourage you to consider the FAQ's on the next page and send your questions and feedback to: feedback@kenmoreshs.eq.edu.au

Wishing you and your family safe and happy holidays,



Paul Robertson
Executive Principal

TEACHERS DEDICATING “*TIME WITH PURPOSE*” FOR YOUR CHILDREN

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will my child get home at the new finishing time?

Both Brisbane City Council and Southern Cross bus lines have agreed to collect students on Monday afternoons at 2.15pm and drop them home before completing the broader route. As a result, KSHS students will be home earlier and can possibly use the time for homework and study, part time work shifts or down time.

Will after school activities, or care be offered on Monday afternoons from 2.15pm?

No. At this point in time there is no commitment to offer extra activities. All students are expected to leave the school grounds as every teacher will be involved in the collaboration initiative.

Will the grounds be supervised after 2.15pm on Mondays? Can my child stay at school until 3pm?

No. There'll be no supervision at school at this time.

Has this worked in other schools?

Yes, at a number of Queensland high schools, including Brisbane State High School, with both scholastic benefits and positive outcomes for students and teachers.

Will the children's lessons be affected on Monday afternoons, as a result of the new finishing time?

Students will still participate fully in the current curriculum. The main change will affect school assemblies. As a result of feedback from your children, one “whole of school” assembly will be held once a month, instead of weekly “year-based” assemblies, which aren't popular with students. Therefore, there will be no loss of face-to-face teaching for our students.