

## Department of PR/Communications

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Tuesday 10 May 2016

Dear Parents,

This year, the teachers in Primary have been discussing difficulties with after-school clubs that have been shared by parents and teachers. Working together to find possible solutions, we would like to share with you our ideas for developing clubs in the Primary for the 2016/2017 academic school year. First, though, here are some the reasons we feel we need to adapt our current after-school club program.

Some concerns raised by parents are:

- ▶ After-school club buses (either not available or bringing children home far too late after a day of school);
- ▶ Many children have other after-school commitments such as additional lessons;
- ▶ Children (especially the younger ones) are often quite tired at the end of a day of school;
- ▶ In the 6 week cycle, student interest can drop off ;
- ▶ Student numbers per club can be limited (art clubs for example);
- ▶ Not all children can participate in after-school clubs;
- ▶ Not enough variety of clubs offered;
- ▶ The actual session time after school often limits what types of clubs may be offered;
- ▶ Spaces available limit types of clubs that can be run by teachers;
- ▶ Currently, classes are losing valuable curriculum time due to extra-curricular activities or supporting curricular activities held during class time.

Working with ideas shared by teachers, and then developed by the Leadership Team, we would like to share our idea for alterations to teacher-led clubs to enrichment activity time in the school day. This would mean two lesson times back-to-back on a day suitable to your child's campus would be enrichment activities offered by the class teachers instead of teacher-led after school clubs. (Please note, this would not change private after-school clubs which would continue as is.) As part of our valuable learning community, we feel it is important to keep you informed as well as provide an opportunity for you to share any concerns or ideas you may have. Here is a breakdown of additional details sketched out so far:

- ▶ There would be a scheduled time where all of the Primary campus would run enrichment activity time. These might be 'clubs' such as drama, sculpture, newspaper, architecture, computer modeling, philosophy, movie club, etc.
- ▶ Some activities such as sculpture or philosophy would change every half term while others such as choir or drama might run the full term.
- ▶ Parent-experts would have an opportunity to share their expertise. For example, a parent artist might join an art activity session for a four week project.
- ▶ Events such as book sales, bazaars, egg hunts would be held on this day to streamline the curriculum time vs enrichment and activity time.



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- ▶ Students would be able to select their 'wish' list for activities which teachers would then coordinately sort them into.
- ▶ Each term, the activities would begin after two weeks. These sessions can be used for specialist weeks' culminating activities as well as a dedicated special PHSCE mini unit.
- ▶ After school private and sport clubs would still be available for the students.

Finally, we would like to share with you how we feel this could benefit your children/our students:

- ▶ All students would be able to participate in educationally valuable extra-curricular experiences.
- ▶ It would be a total of 2 x 40 minute sessions, back to back. The total time from the curriculum in the year would come to 48 hours or roughly 10 school days out of the curriculum. With the many additional activities that are held during the school day, many classes are currently well over the 30 days which we typically allot to these events. Most team sporting events are already on Fridays.
- ▶ We could run a larger variety of enrichment activities; drama for example could run a full term however activities such as sculpture could change every half term and thus be offered to a wider variety of students.
- ▶ Students would have a greater chance of getting in the activity they would like to as it could be offered multiple times throughout the term instead of just once to a smaller number of children.
- ▶ As this is during the school day, we have teacher assistants to support us. This means our student limit goes back to the classroom limits.
- ▶ Pull out special lessons such as gifted and talented or booster groups could be held during this time.
- ▶ Teachers would have a longer time to be with the students in the activities, so can plan better experiences.
- ▶ We would have access to spaces additional to our classrooms for activities.

For any further questions or if you would like to share your ideas, included is a comment-form which may be returned to school.

Yours sincerely,  
Miss Frigeri, Primary Curriculum Coordinator



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### Curriculum Enrichment Comment Sheet.

Please return to your Campus Secretary who will then hand them to Miss Frigeri

Campus:	I have children in year:
Comment:	
Name (Optional)	

