

Consultation Results 24th November 2023

The following consultation was carried out amongst the chief stakeholders here at Tarporley CE Primary.

Tarporley CE Primary School – Consultation on changing the closing time of the last day of term.

Consultation – 26th October 2023 – 23rd November 2023

Proposed Introduction – 21st December 2023

The school is considering an alteration to the timing of the school day on the last day of each term.

As part of this process, we would like to canvas opinion from the chief stakeholders – staff, students and parents/carers.

Below are the proposed alterations as well as the reasoning for the change and associated issues that have so far been identified.

Proposal:

- To end the school day at 1.30pm three times a year on the last day of each term.

Comments Received on End of School Day Consultation

The following comments have been received by parents regarding the consultation to end the school day at 1.30pm on the last day of each term.

1. Dear Mrs Forrester and Mr Fry, In response to your consultation I would fully endorse changing the time at the end of each term to 1.30pm for the reasons outlined in your proposal.
2. Good evening, I truly believe a half day on the last day of term would be beneficial for all concerned. My children are certainly tired by the time half term comes round plus it makes it special to be allowed to finish school early.
3. We're supportive and understand the rationale.
4. It's a yes from me to finish early at the end of term! Have a lovely half term, hope you get some rest! God bless.
5. Just looked at the survey the high school finish at 2pm not 1.30 and there was no comment box so thought I'd email you , I would support a 2pm finish .
6. The school has pointed to your email to receive comments about the new proposal to end the school year earlier at the end of term. Apologies for writing, however I have been unable to gain access to the survey. I have to admit I am very divided by the suggestion, I do not find the statistic of 37.5 percent of children having siblings in Tarporley high school useful, this tells me that the majority of the school (62.5 percent) do not. The school has not demonstrated with this statistic it is thinking about the majority of students and families.

I would also ask, has analysis shown the drop in attendance on last days to be amongst this cohort? No data has been given for this, the argument would be better supported with the data. We do not have two children, but actually have family in Cheshire East, if I'd been asked, I would have loved to align with their holidays so that our daughter can spend time

with her cousins. I understand this is difficult though. I also do not believe that this will encourage higher attendance rates, I suspect they will stay the same, time will tell.

The school are prepared to extend the treehouse facilities for those of us who need it (we do). However, I can only assume this will be of extra cost to the parents and therefore be a disadvantage financially. I question how our daughter will feel 'having' to spend extra time in tree house, she doesn't wish to attend on occasion and wishes she was like the other boys and girls getting picked up at the end of school from her classroom. I will certainly feel pressure to pick her up as early as possible which is difficult whilst working full time. Finally, as an aside, I would hope the school will stagger the end time with the secondary school as I imagine significant traffic issues within Tarporley if both schools end at the same time.

RESPONSE

Thank you for taking the time to consider the proposal and to come back to me with your thoughts, I'll ensure that this email is included with the responses as part of our deliberations.

The proposal was brought to the board on behalf of the staff at the school, as part of a constant review and reflection process. One area we are conscious of is that attendance on the last days of term are our most poorly attended days, with a significant number of families taking pupils out early to make the most of the holidays. Unfortunately, following DFE and Government guidance means that these days cannot be approved and count against the child(ren) and their families as unauthorised absences. We understand, as part of the proposals put to the board, that the high school currently closes earlier on the last day of term, which sets a precedent in the local area. We believe this was done, in part, to improve the last day's attendance and while we do not have the data to assess the success of this, we did note that the high school continues to follow this schedule.

The board felt that the right thing to do was to explore this option further and engage our parental community. We envisaged a range of opinion, as every family has different circumstance and as you can imagine, this has been born out in the responses and we will consider all of them carefully before a decision is made.

We have had discussions around the Tree House provision and how we can minimise or remove the financial burden on families who rely on this service, for these extended hours. Currently the proposal is that for those parents who rely on the Tree house and currently pay for the Friday sessions, would not be charged any extra should the board decide to implement these plans.

Once the consultation has closed, we will consider all of the responses and make a decision in due course.

Kind regards

Chris Fry

Responses Received

Parent / Carer Responses

The consultation was sent to 293 parents and 193 responses were received, this is a return rate of 65%.

138 parents – 71.5% voted to support the proposal

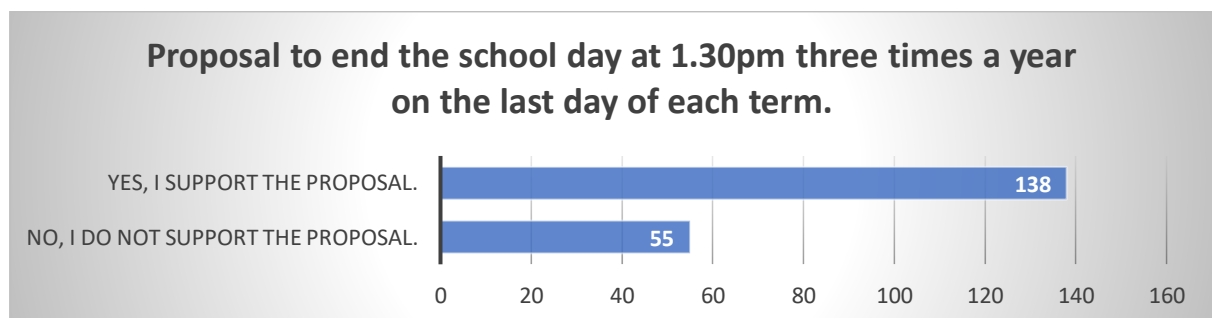
55 parents – 28.5% voted to not support the proposal

There were only 3 children where both parents voted:

Child A – both parents voted no

Child B – Both parents voted yes

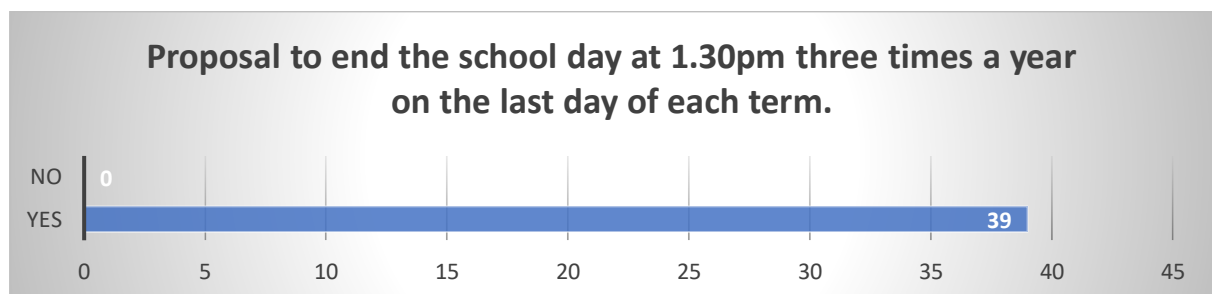
Child C – Each parent voted differently



Staff Responses

The consultation was sent to all 50 staff and 39 responses were received, this is a return rate of 78%.

100% of staff votes to support the proposal.

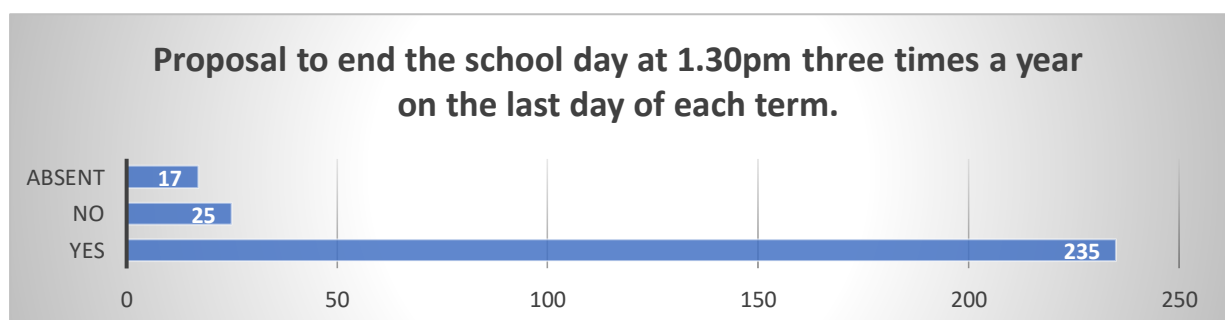


Pupil Responses

The consultation was shared with 277 children and their individual views collated by the class teacher. 17 children were absent or abstained making a return rate of 94%.

235 pupils – 90 % voted to support the proposal

25 pupils – 9% voted to not support the proposal



Summary

Governors set the following criteria for measuring the results of the consultation:

- 30% return rate
- 51% majority

	Parents	Staff	Children
Return Rate	65%	78%	94%
Yes Vote	71.5%	100%	90%
No Vote	28.5%	0%	9%

Results

The proposal to end the school day at 1.30 at the end of each term has been agreed by the Governors of the school following the consultation and will begin on 21st December 2023.