



QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Important Update: Changes to the School Day from September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As our school community continues to grow significantly in size, we are constantly reviewing our systems to ensure the best possible experience for all students. One area that has consistently been raised by students is the length of queues during lunchtime. Plus, due to the number of students on site, lunchtime communal areas are extremely busy.

Over the past year, we have taken several steps to address this concern:

- We have moved to a new catering provider to improve service efficiency
- We have installed facial recognition software to speed up the payment process
- We have opened additional serveries to increase capacity

Despite these improvements, many students still report that lunchtime queues remain too long.

To further address this, we will be introducing a split lunch system from the start of the next academic year. This means:

- Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8, and 9) will have lunch at one time.
- Key Stages 4 and 5 (Years 10, 11, 12 and 13) will have lunch at a different time.

This change will effectively halve the number of students queuing at any one time, significantly reducing wait times and improving the overall lunchtime experience.

To accommodate this change, we will be adjusting the structure of the school day. The new schedule is outlined in the table below:

Time	Activity	
8.40am	Period 1	
9.40am	Period 2	
10.40am	Break	
11.00am	Period 3	
12.00pm	Key Stage 3 lunch	Key Stage 4&5 tutor time and enrichment
12.30pm	Key Stage 3 tutor time and enrichment	Key Stage 4&5 lunch
1.00pm	Period 4	
2.00pm	Period 5	
3.00pm	End of School Day	

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Headteacher: Mr Tom Kearns BSc NPQH





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You will see from the table, whilst one Key Stage is on lunch the other(s) will have what was traditionally called tutor time. The new 'tutor time', which we are now calling our Personal Development Programme (PDP), is when students will complete a range of activities which includes a weekly assembly, a reading programme in Key Stage 3, personal development activities, plus planned enrichment opportunities such as sports activities, games club, film club, to mention but a few.

By making enrichment compulsory for all students during a timetabled slot in the school day, it gives students the opportunity to engage in meaningful, enjoyable, and enriching activities during the day which will then prepare them for their afternoon studies in periods 4 and 5. It also allows students to develop meaningful relationships with students beyond their current timetabled groups. The full programme will be shaped in consultation with our students, who will be able to suggest ideas to enrich their school experience. Once the programme has been finalised in the coming weeks, all students and parents will be sent details of what will be delivered. Please note, the lunchtime enrichment programme will not replace the normal after-school clubs and activities on offer e.g. STEM, sports, music and drama.

Furthermore, as part of the personal development programme, we are wanting to make even more of our wonderful house system, by driving a healthy sense of competition amongst our school community. Therefore, to put year groups geographically close to each other around the school building for their PDP, tutor groups are being assigned new tutors for September. Students will be informed who their tutor is going to be in the coming days.

If you would like to comment on the changes to our school day or proposed Personal Development Programme feel free to comment on the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/em2y5Veymw>

We understand that changes to the school day can impact families, and we are committed to making this transition as smooth as possible. We feel these changes are needed to improve the lunch time experience for our students, but also to further promote our sense of school community, cohesion and positive culture.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr T Kearns
Headteacher

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