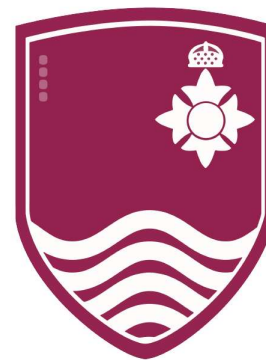


Our Ref: CS/New School Day

Date: Tuesday 14th July 2026



**Dame Elizabeth
Cadbury School**
www.decschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our commitment to providing the very best education for every pupil, we recently consulted with parents, carers and staff regarding proposed changes to the school day. Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their views. Your feedback was carefully considered throughout the consultation process.

Following this consultation, we are pleased to confirm that the **new school day structure will be introduced from September 2026**.

These changes have been carefully designed to maximise learning opportunities, provide targeted academic support and continue to strengthen our commitment to the **Dame Elizabeth Cadbury Values**, ensuring every pupil has every opportunity to achieve their full potential.

New School Day

Time	Activity
8:00am – 8:55am	Free Breakfast Club (including breakfast and optional sporting activities such as basketball and table tennis)
8:15am – 9:00am	Targeted Intervention / Enrichment
By 9:00am	All pupils must be on the school site and ready to line up.
9:00am – 9:05am	Line Up
9:05am – 9:35am	Form Time / Assembly
9:35am – 10:35am	Period 1
10:35am – 11:35am	Period 2
11:35am – 12:00pm	Morning Break
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Period 3
1:00pm – 2:30pm	Period 4 / Staggered Lunch
2:30pm – 3:30pm	Period 5
From 3:30pm	Extra-curricular Clubs and Activities



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Lunch Arrangements

Our **staggered lunch system** will continue to ensure pupils have **sufficient time to eat**, socialise and enjoy their break in a calm environment.

- **Year 8 & Year 11:** 1:00pm – 1:30pm
- **Year 7:** 1:30pm – 2:00pm
- **Year 10 & Year 9:** 2:00pm – 2:30pm

We recognise that, for some year groups, lunch will take place approximately **20 minutes later** than it has previously. However, pupils have the opportunity to attend our free Breakfast Club from 8:00am, where they can enjoy a healthy breakfast before the school day begins. In addition, all pupils continue to have a morning break, providing another opportunity to have a snack if they feel hungry.

These changes ensure pupils remain well-fuelled throughout the day while allowing us to **maximise learning time** and provide **additional intervention opportunities**. The overall length of the school day has not increased, with pupils continuing to finish at 3:30pm.

Free Breakfast Club

Our **free Breakfast Club** will continue to run every morning from **8:00am**.

Alongside a healthy free breakfast, pupils will be able to take part in a variety of activities before school, including **basketball, table tennis and other sporting and enrichment opportunities**. These activities are designed to help pupils start the day positively, build friendships and arrive in lessons ready to learn.

Targeted Morning Intervention

From **8:15am**, selected pupils will be invited to attend targeted intervention sessions.

These sessions will run in **six-week blocks** and will be carefully planned using the outcomes of recent in-school assessments. This ensures pupils receive additional support precisely where it is needed to close knowledge gaps, improve confidence and accelerate progress.

Parents and carers of pupils selected for intervention **will receive a letter early in September** explaining why their child has been invited and outlining the programme of support.

This targeted approach enables us to provide the right support at the right time and helps pupils become increasingly **Self-Motivated to Achieve**.

Year 11 GCSE Success

From **Monday 7th September 2026**, all **Year 11 pupils** will be expected to attend school by **8:15am every day** to participate in **GCSE intervention lessons**. These sessions will provide **additional teaching, retrieval practice, revision and examination preparation** throughout the academic year.

Previously, these intervention sessions were delivered after school as Period 6. By moving them to the start of the school day, pupils will be fresher, more focused and in a better position to engage with their learning. Educational research consistently shows that pupils are more alert and able to retain new knowledge earlier in the day, allowing them to make greater progress from these additional sessions.

Year 11 is a crucial stage in every young person's education. We expect all pupils to take every opportunity available to support their learning and maximise their chances of achieving successful GCSE outcomes. By attending these daily intervention sessions, pupils will receive over **100 hours of additional teaching and revision** across the academic year, giving them the very best opportunity to secure the qualifications needed for college, apprenticeships and future careers.



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This reflects our Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School Value of being Self-Motivated to Achieve—making the most of every opportunity to succeed and preparing pupils for a successful future.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Learning does not stop at the end of the school day. Alongside our morning provision, we will continue to offer a **full programme of extra-curricular clubs and enrichment activities after school**. Whether pupils enjoy sport, performing arts, STEM, reading, leadership or creative activities, there will be opportunities for everyone to become involved, develop new skills and represent Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School.

Living the Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School Values

Everything we do at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School is underpinned by our values. The new school day has been designed to help every pupil develop these qualities each day.

Through these changes we will continue to encourage every pupil to:

- Become **Self-Motivated to Achieve** by making the most of every opportunity available.
- Show our value of **Together we Learn** by supporting and encouraging their peers.
- **Respectful to All** through rewarding pupils through reward systems.
- **Integrity in Everything we do** through excellent attendance, punctuality and positive behaviour.
- Make a **Valuable Contribution** to our academy community.
- Recognise that **Everyone is Equal**, with every pupil receiving the support they need to succeed.

We believe these changes will provide even greater opportunities for pupils to succeed academically, develop personally and enjoy a rich school experience.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming all pupils back in September and working in partnership with you to ensure every child fulfils their potential.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Seager
Head of School



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