

Primary 7-11 Lesson



Be informed.



Be curious.



Be heard.

Your latest results: “Do emojis make communicating easier?”



Yes

78.9%

No

21.1%

“Yes, because it expresses what you’re feeling and can help people with their spelling.”

Mildmay Primary School

“You don’t have to write as many words. They can still understand what you’re saying from the pictures.”

Lanchester Primary School

“We can use emojis to help us express our feelings and thoughts, but with the emoji on its own, we can get confused 😊”

Holland House School

“I think not because sometimes it is difficult to understand what someone is saying based on the emoji they use as some emojis can mean different things.”

Morley Place Academy

54,532 young people voted this week! Were you one of them?

Your latest results: “Do emojis make communicating easier?”

At The Week Junior we always want to know what young people think – and I’m delighted to see that so many of you took the time to make your voices heard.

I’m with the majority, I also think emojis help with communication. As an editor I work with words all the time, but as a magazine editor, I know the power of an image, and emojis seem to me the perfect combination of the two.



THE WEEK
Junior

**Vanessa Harriss, Editor
at The Week Junior**

Your views on “Do emojis make communicating easier?” were also heard by:

**THE WEEK
Junior**

The Week
Junior



Oxford
English
Dictionary



Susie
Dent



The British
Psychological
Society



Speakers
Trust



Be informed.



Be curious.



Be heard.

Want to share your views with us? Share your votes and comments by logging into your VotesforSchools account. You can also get in touch at primary@votesforschools.com

Voters' Choice wasn't the only way you changed the conversation last year...

Your votes on our knife crime topic were used by the National Commission for Knife Crime and the Youth Endowment Fund in their research.



Your thoughts on homophobic language were featured in the [BBC](#)!



The Carers' Trust used your views on young carers from 2023 in a special report.



Barnardo's took your votes to the Labour and Conservative Party Conferences and included them in a special [press release](#).



Our partners for the periods VoteTopic shared your views on their social media channels.



Today's VoteTopic:

Should lessons start later in the day?

UNCRC Article 3:
Best interests of
the child

UN SDG 3:
Good health &
wellbeing

VfS Key Theme 1:
Health &
wellbeing

1 Clock-watching



Individual activity (1 min)

What **time** do you **start school**? Show your **answer** with a **mini clock** or with your **arms** as if you are a **clock**.

Curriculum link – Maths

Which is the hour hand and which is the minute hand?

2 Why are we talking about this?



On **New Year's Day**, some people make **plans** for the year ahead.

You might have set yourself a **challenge** or **decided to learn something new**. Maybe there was a **habit** you wanted to **change**!

Did you know?

The **plans** that people make on New Year's Day are called **New Year's Resolutions**.

2 Why are we talking about this?



Many people make **plans** for how they will be **better** at **looking after themselves**.

So, our **theme** this week is **health and wellbeing**.



Your **health** is about your **mind** and **body working well** and **not** having any **illnesses**.

Your **wellbeing** is about how **happy** and **healthy** you **feel** in **your life!**

2 Why are we talking about this?



Hmm... Do I want a **gentler start** to the day, or do I just want to **get on with my lessons**?

Some people think that **children** would have **better wellbeing** if they had more time to **look after themselves** in the **mornings before lessons start**.

This week, your VoteTopic question is: **“Should lessons start later in the day?”**

3 Getting what you need



Lessons at **school** are very **important**.
They can **help** us to...

Understand
the world

Decide what choices
to make in life

Learn about
ourselves

Enjoy
ourselves

Practise
new skills

Achieve
things

Make the world a
better place



3 Getting what you need



Pair activity (1 min)

There are some things that your **mind** and **body need before** you can **learn** in your **lessons** at **school**. **What do you think that they are?**

Talk to your partner to share your ideas!

Sleep

Health

Safety

Kindness

Water

Confidence

Clothing

Relationships

Food

Respect

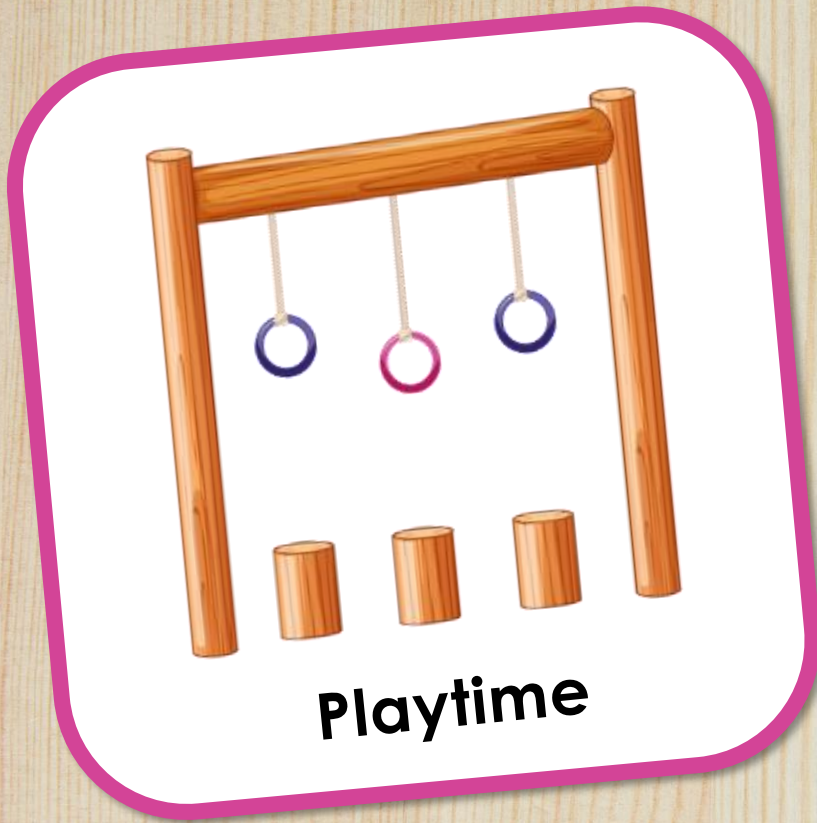


Some people would **prefer to start their lessons** as soon as they get to school. Others would prefer to have **time to settle in**.

If your **lessons started later** in the day, there would be **time to fill in school**.

Individual activity (5-10 mins)

Over the next few slides, you will see some **different activities** you could do in school if **lessons started later**. If you **would like to do this activity**, tap your **left wrist**. If you **wouldn't like to do this**, tap your **right wrist**.



Would you like to
start your school day
in this way?



Would you like to
start your school day
in this way?



Would you like to
start your school day
in this way?



Would you like to
start your school day
in this way?



Would you like to start your school day in this way?



Would you like to
start your school day
in this way?



Would you like to start your school day in this way?



Tablet time

Would you like to start your school day in this way?

5 Could it be magic?



But, if we could **wave a magic wand**, what would you like the **school day to look like**? Some **young people** might like to **change the**

Pair activity (5-10 mins)

Let's see some ideas for **changing the school day**. For each one, think of a **reason for doing this idea** (a **pro**) and a **reason against doing this idea** (a **con**).



Arrive at
school
later

Can you think of
a pro and con for
this idea?



Start
lessons
later

Can you think of
a pro and con for
this idea?



Finish
school
earlier

Can you think of
a pro and con for
this idea?



Keep the
school
day the
same

Can you think of
a pro and con for
this idea?



Arrive at
school
later

Start
lessons
later

Whole class
activity (2 mins)
Which option
would you
choose? Walk to
the corner of the
room that
matches the **best
idea** for you.

Finish
school
earlier

Keep it
the
same

6 Starting right



Pair activity (5-10 mins)
On the next few slides, you are going to **hear some ideas** about **whether it is a good idea to start lessons later in the day or not**. When you have heard each idea, **turn to your partner** and say, **“I agree”** or **“I disagree”**. **Explain your reasons.**



No

I would rather **start earlier**
so I could **finish earlier**
and get more **exercise** in
the **afternoon!**





Yes

If lessons started later, I would have **time to talk to my teacher** if I was worried about something.

6 Starting right



No

I get to **play with my friends enough** and my **teacher is great at finding time to chat** already.

6 Starting right



It would be great to have **time every day** to come in and **play** with my **friends**.

Yes

**No**

If **lessons** are so **important**, I think we should **spend as much time as possible** on them.



Yes

It would be great to come in and start reading **all the books in my classroom**. It would help me **feel** so much **calmer** when I get to **school**.



No

I would rather **start school later altogether**. Then I could **get more sleep** if I was feeling **unwell**.

6 Starting right



Yes

I would love it if I got some **more time to chat** to **children** in **my class** and **find out how they are**.

7 Still clock-watching



Soon you will be voting **Yes** or **No** on: “**Should lessons start later in the day?**” Let’s **revisit** the challenge from earlier on.



Challenge (1 min)

What time would you **like lessons to start?** Show your **answer** with a **mini clock** or with your **arms as if you are a clock!**

Now's your chance to vote on: "Should lessons start later in the day?"

Yes

This would give us the chance to eat, chat, read and pick what we wanted to learn.

I would really like a bit of time at the start of the day to wake up and switch my brain on for my lessons.

I think a later start would improve my health and wellbeing.

How will we fit in all our lessons if we start them later on in the day?

I think it is best to just get started on lessons straight away, so we don't get distracted.

If I could wave a magic wand, I'd change the timings of the school day completely. I'd opt for finishing school earlier in the afternoon!

No

We will be sharing your thoughts on this topic with Schools Week, TES, the Department for Education, the NASUWT and the NEU.

Log in to your VotesforSchools account to submit your vote and leave a comment.