

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES - CLLR LAURA MAYES

OPERATIONAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES

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REFERENCE: **CS-3-16**

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAYS 2017/18

Purpose of Report

To ask the cabinet member to agree the school term and holiday dates for 2017/18 for Wiltshire's Community, Voluntary Controlled and Community Special Schools.

Consultation

A protocol for the setting of school term & holiday dates has been endorsed by the Teachers Joint Consultative Committee and County Secretaries (see Appendix A). In line with the recommendations set out in this protocol, two 195 term day calendars were proposed for consultation.

Consultations with schools, neighbouring authorities, members, public and other interested parties were completed (see Appendix B).

The Teachers Joint Consultative Committee and County Secretaries considered and noted the consultation responses at its meeting on 24 March (see Appendix C). In response to the number of representations received regarding the timing of the Christmas break it was decided to re-open an amended consultation for a further two weeks (see Appendix D).

The responses to the consultation are summarised in Appendix E. The Teachers Joint Consultative Committee and County Secretaries considered these findings and confirm their support for the recommended school term and holiday dates for Wiltshire's Community, Voluntary Controlled and Community Special Schools detailed in Option 3.

Options Considered

Option 1: This is the preferred option from the original consultation and sees term 2 finish on Friday 15 December with term reconvening on Tuesday 2 January, giving a break of two full weeks and three weekends. This break has been adopted by the majority of our neighbouring authorities, including Swindon, Dorset, Hampshire, Devon, B&NES, Bristol, and Gloucestershire.

Option 3: Follows the principles set out in Option 1 but moves the Christmas break so the last day of term 2 is Wednesday 20 December and the start of term 3 Thursday 4 January. Term 6 then finishes a day earlier on Wednesday 25 July.

Reason for Decision

As dictated by Section 32 of the Education Act 2002, the local authority is responsible for determining the term dates for all community, voluntary controlled or community special schools in Wiltshire.

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| <p><u>DECISION MADE</u></p> <p>I have taken into account the views of those responding to the consultation, the opinions of the Joint Consultative Committee, and the views of members. I approve the 195 day calendar for School Term & Holiday Dates for 2017/18 as shown in Option 3.</p> <p>This decision was published on the 11 May 2016 and will come into force on the 19 May 2016.</p> |
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The following supporting documents are attached:

- Report - School term and holiday dates 2017-18
- Appx - School term and holiday dates 2017-18

Date: 9 May 2016

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Cllr Laura Mayes
Cabinet Member for Children’s Services