
SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2016/17

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to:
 - 1.1 confirm option(s) for school term and holiday dates for Wiltshire's Community & Voluntary Controlled Schools and Community Special Schools for the school year 2016/17.

School Term & Holidays 2016/17 - Options

2. The government announced in the summer of 2013 their intention to allow all state schools in England to decide their own school term and holiday dates. At this time the Deregulation Bill is still progressing through the House of Lords and has yet to be passed, so we will need to confirm options and follow the consultation process for the 2016/17 school year.

The ATL protocol (see Appendix 1) produces the term dates detailed in Option 1. Upholding the protocol stringently sees the school year commence on the first working day of September with the Easter break commencing on the first Monday of April. The protocol also stipulates that the last day of the second session will always be 18, 19, 20 or 21 December, making the second term finish on Monday 19th December. The last day of term would be Tuesday 25th July and would see a summer holiday of five weeks and two days.

Some of our neighbouring authorities have begun their consultation process and are consulting on options which apply a five day October break, have two full weeks and three weekends over Christmas, and have the Easter Break running from 10th April to the 21st April (see Option 2).

Option 3 shows a calendar highlighting in orange where there are key variances between the two options. Deciding on which of these key dates to follow will determine the calendar/s for onward consultation.

Recommendation

3. To consider the timing of the Easter Break, the final day of term 2, and the proposed start date for the 2017/18 academic year to produce calendars with options for a five day October break and a seven day October break to take out to consultation.

Proposal

4. This paper is requesting JCC to:
 - 4.1 confirm the proposed option(s) for consultation for school term & holiday dates 2016/17.

Carolyn Godfrey
DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Wiltshire Council

School terms and holidays

A protocol for setting dates

- Start the school year on the first working day of September. (If this is a Friday, schools can make their own decisions about whether to make it a professional development day.)
- Start the third session ('term') on the first Monday of January. If this is the New Year public holiday, start on the next day (Tuesday).
- Make the 10 working days preceding the January return the Christmas and New Year holiday. (The last day of the second session will always be 18, 19, 20 or 21 December.)
- Divide the first two sessions with a holiday of seven working days (Monday of the first week to Tuesday of the second) and make the two sessions as nearly equal in length as possible.
- The third and fourth sessions should each be of 28-30 working days and end on the Friday preceding the first Monday of April. They should be separated by a week's holiday (Monday to Friday) in February. If the Friday preceding the first Monday of April is Good Friday, the fourth session should end the day before (Thursday).
- The fifth session should run from the third Monday of April to the Friday preceding the Spring public holiday (the last Monday of May). If the third Monday of April is the Easter Monday public holiday, start on the next day (Tuesday).
- The sixth session should begin on the first Monday of June and run for as long as is necessary to bring the total number of working days for the year to 195.

Consideration

- It may be decided to vary by a day or two the start of the first session and the end of the sixth in order to
 - reduce the number of weeks in which there are fewer than five working days
 - maintain a nearly constant length for the summer holiday of 38-40 days

Key dates for planning

- The first working day of September
- The first Monday of January
- The Friday preceding the first Monday of April
- The third Monday of April
- The Friday preceding the last Monday of May
- The first Monday of June

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2016-17
OPTION 1 - ATL PROTOCOL

	August/September					October					November				
Monday	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	
Tuesday	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Wednesday	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Thursday		1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	
Friday		2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	
Saturday		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26
Sunday		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27

	December					January					February				
Monday	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	
Tuesday	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	
Wednesday	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	
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Sunday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	

	March					April					May				
Monday	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		7	14	21	28	
Tuesday	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		8	15	22	29	
Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Thursday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31
Friday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
Saturday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	
Sunday	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	

	June					July					August/September				
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Wednesday	7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
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Friday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	1
Saturday	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2
Sunday	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	

Bank and Public Holidays 2011/2012

Christmas Day Holiday	26th December 2016	Term 1	35
Boxing Day Holiday	27th December 2016	Term 2	36
New Years Holiday	2nd January 2017	Term 3	29
Good Friday	14th April 2017	Term 4	30
Easter Monday	17th April 2017	Term 5	28
May Day Holiday	1st May 2017	Term 6	37
Spring Bank Holiday	29th May 2017	TOTAL	195
Summer Bank Holiday	28th August 2017		

5 days are also available for professional training day closures during term time, set by the Headteacher and Governors of each school.

Dates are correct at time of publication.

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2016-17
OPTION 2 - NEIGHBOURING AUTHORITIES



	August/September					October					November				
Monday	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	
Tuesday	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Wednesday	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
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5 days are also available for professional training day closures during term time, set by the Headteacher and Governors of each school.
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SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2016-17
OPTION 3



	August/September					October					November				
Monday	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	
Tuesday	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	
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Spring Bank Holiday	29th May 2017	TOTAL
Summer Bank Holiday	28th August 2017	0

5 days are also available for professional training day closures during term time, set by the Headteacher and Governors of each school.
Dates are correct at time of publication.

28 November 2014

Children's Services
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JB

Headteachers & Clerks to Governors of
all Wiltshire maintained Schools

LA Circ: A255/14

Consultation – Response date 06 February 2015

Dear Colleague

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2016/17 - Consultation

I am writing to seek your views on proposed school term and holiday dates in Wiltshire for 2016/17, which are attached for your comments.

Previous consultations have indicated an overwhelming wish for schools to retain a calendar of 195 days, so as to permit the setting of five staff development days within term time dates.

The proposed calendar was agreed by Wiltshire's Joint Consultative Committee at their meeting on the 27th November 2014. A number of Wiltshire's neighbouring authorities will also be consulting on the same dates.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this consultation as widely as possible amongst your staff. I would also ask for your assistance in making parents and organisations local to your school aware of the consultation either by including details in a school newsletter and/or by drawing their attention to the details on the website.

A copy of this document has been forwarded to

- All schools for heads to co-ordinate a single school response taking into account the views of all staff
- your clerk to governor with a request that they co-ordinate a reply from the governors.
- The Wiltshire Council website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk) where it can be located as a related page link on the schools and colleges page: [Terms and holidays | Wiltshire Council](#)

The results of this consultation will be collated and presented to the Schools Joint Consultative Committee prior to the final recommended model being determined by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services. All comments received will be taken into consideration during the final decision making process.

Please can I take this opportunity to encourage everyone to forward their comments by whatever means is convenient for you; by posting any comments/observations to the address below, or by e-mail to directordce@wiltshire.gov.uk. The deadline for responses is **Friday 06 February 2015**. I look forward to receiving your views.

Yours sincerely

Nicola McCann
School Term Dates 2016/17 Consultation
Children's Services,
County Hall,
Bythesea Road,
Trowbridge,
BA14 8JB
Tel: 01225 713757
Nicola.McCann@wiltshire.gov.uk

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2016-17
Proposed Calendar

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Bank and Public Holidays 2016/2017

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Summer Bank Holiday	28th August 2017		

5 days are also available for professional training day closures during term time, set by the Headteacher and Governors of each school.

Dates are correct at time of publication.

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NO.

JCC

26 March 2015

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2016/17**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this item is:
 - i) to report the findings of the consultation regarding proposed school term and holiday dates for 2016/17.
 - ii) to confirm JCC's support for the recommended school term and holiday dates for Wiltshire's Community, Voluntary Controlled and Community Special Schools for the school year 2016/17.

School Term & Holiday Dates – 2016/17

2. In line with the recommendation of the JCC at its meeting in November 2014 a variety of interested parties including schools, neighbouring authorities, diocese plus others have been consulted on proposed term dates for 2016/17 (Appendix 1).
3. Appendix 2 details comments received as a result of this consultation.
4. A number of our neighbouring authorities have now either completed or are in the process of consulting on their own school term dates for 2016/17. The majority of our neighbours to the south west have consulted on dates similar, if not identical, to Wiltshire's proposal.

Proposal

5. The JCC is invited to consider the responses to the consultation on the proposed school term & holiday dates for 2016/17 and decide whether to confirm its support for the dates detailed in Appendix 1.

CAROLYN GODFREY

DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SERVICES

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2016-17
 Proposed Calendar

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Bank and Public Holidays 2016/2017		
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Spring Bank Holiday	29th May 2017	TOTAL 195
Summer Bank Holiday	28th August 2017	

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Dates are correct at time of publication.

Schools

NAME	COMMENT
Horningsham Primary School	Please note our headteacher's comment for consideration of the academic year 2016-17 is to include 01.09.17 in the summer holidays for a complete week of holiday in w/c 28.08.14. This gives a total of 6 complete weeks of summer holiday and the new academic year would start on Monday 4 th September 2017.
Manor Fields Primary	Thank you for the copy of the term dates. Aside from the very long summer holiday, my biggest reservation is the scarcity of teaching weeks between the Easter Break and the KS2 SATs. In the proposed model there might only be 9 teaching days between the end of the Spring term and the tests whilst if we return to school on Tuesday 18th, we could have an additional week for (vital!) preparation.
Colerne CE School	Just to confirm that the staff from Colerne CE School think these are sensible and practical term and holiday dates – thank you.
St. George's Catholic Primary School	Ref proposed calendar for 2016-17. The staff at St. George's School, Warminster prefer the calendar model which includes 1 week and 2 days for the October half term as has been the case for the last few years.
Broad Chalke Primary School	We are disappointed that only 1 option for dates has been put forward although we acknowledge that this is probably to unify school holiday dates across neighbouring counties. The staff feel that a longer October break, as we have had in Wiltshire for the last few years, is very beneficial to pupils, families and staff as the Autumn term is very long. Overall the view of the staff was that, if this option were available, they would prefer to break up later in the summer term e.g. July 26 th and add those two days on to the October break.
Southbroom Infants	After consulting staff and governors response to the proposed dates are as follows: Would prefer extra 2 days in Oct 20/10 & 21/10 then not finish until 25th July. Would prefer to finish in Dec on 19th or 20th so we can return on 5th Jan
Melksham Oak	The Governing Body of Melksham Oak Community School welcomes these sensible dates

Avon Valley College	<p>Following discussion of the distributed proposed dates for 2016-17, we would like to request that the Easter holiday is altered to run from the 3rd to the 17th April. Although I am new to the county, I have been advised that the previous arrangement was designed to split half-terms into reasonable sizes. Currently the fourth half-term will be 7 weeks long, and the fifth will be 5 weeks long. If the Easter holiday is moved back to start on 3rd April then there will be two half-terms of 6 weeks.</p> <p>We would like this suggestion to be considered before a final decision is made, and we do appreciate that it is not always possible to please everybody. The rest of the proposed dates seem fine.</p>
Derry Hill Primary	<p>The 2 additional days added onto the weeks holiday in October are very beneficial to the children after a long first term. It would be preferable for Term 4 and Term 5 to be more even, making both 6 weeks. It would also be more preferable from a teaching point of view to make term 5 and 6 more even, or if not, make term 5 longer than term 6.</p>
Chilton Foliat Primary School	<p>The staff, Head Teacher and governing body are in agreement that we would choose to continue with a longer October half term and shorter summer holiday calendar rather than adopt the dates in the attached proposed calendar. The dates being suggested by the school and governing body are to break up for the October half term on Wednesday 19th October 2016 and return to school on Monday 31st October 2016 which would be an extra 2 days holiday than shown in the proposed calendar. The school then suggests breaking up for the summer holidays on Tuesday 25th July 2017 and returning on Friday 1st September which is a reduction of 2 days holiday from the proposed calendar.</p>
Rushall Primary	<p>The Headteacher and FGB agree with the proposed School term and holiday dates 2016/17.</p>
Langley Fitzurse CE Primary	<p>The school has no comments or amendments to suggest</p>

Academies

NAME	COMMENT
South Wilts Grammar School for Girls	<p>We object to the start of term being on the 1st September 2017 because it is a Friday.</p>
Netheravon All Saints	<p>We have received the following comments: 1. Shorten December holiday dates by 2 days and extend October half-term by 2 days 2. Shorten Summer holiday dates by 2 days and extend October half-term by 2 days. The responses seem to indicate a preference for a longer October half-term which we currently have in this current academic year and for 2015/16 academic year</p>

Woodford Valley	We have looked at the 16/17 suggested term dates but do not feel the October holiday or Christmas break work too well. Oct 20th – 28th inc would be better and finish summer on 25th July. December 22nd to 4th Jan inc.
Rowde Primary Academy	The proposed term dates for 2016/17 have been looked at by Governors and Staff here at Rowde Primary Academy and they are happy with these.
River Mead School	Just to let you know the consultation was circulated to all our staff at River Mead and I have received no comments/views to pass on to you.
Queen's Crescent	Queen's Crescent School are happy with these dates.

Parents/other

NAME	COMMENT
<i>No comments recieved</i>	