

Joint Consultative Committee  
10 March 2011

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**SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2012/13**

**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this item is:
  - i) to report the findings of the consultation regarding proposed school term and holiday dates for 2012/13.
  - 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 2012/13.

**School Term & Holiday Dates – 2012/13**

2. In line with the recommendation of the County Secretaries at its meeting in November 2010 a variety of interested parties including schools, neighbouring authorities, diocese plus others have been consulted on proposed term dates for 2012/13 (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 2012/13. The majority of our neighbours to the south west have consulted on dates similar, if not identical, to Wiltshire's proposal.

**Proposal**

5. JCC is invited to consider the responses to the consultation on the proposed school term & holiday dates for 2012/13 and decide whether to confirm its support for the dates detailed in Option 2.

CAROLYN GODFREY  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN & EDUCATION

**APPENDIX 1**

**SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2012-2013  
OPTION 1**

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

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

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

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

<b>Bank and Public Holidays 2012/2013</b>			
Christmas Day Holiday	25th December 2012	Term 1	40
Boxing Day Holiday	26th December 2012	Term 2	35
New Years Holiday	1st January 2013	Term 3	25
Good Friday	29th March 2013	Term 4	25
Easter Monday	1st April 2013	Term 5	34
May Day Holiday	6th May 2013	Term 6	36
Spring Bank Holiday	27th May 2013	TOTAL	195
Summer Bank Holiday	26th August 2013		

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2012-2013  
OPTION 2

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

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

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

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

<b>Bank and Public Holidays 2012/2013</b>			
Christmas Day Holiday	25th December 2012	Term 1	38
Boxing Day Holiday	26th December 2012	Term 2	35
New Years Holiday	1st January 2013	Term 3	25
Good Friday	29th March 2013	Term 4	25
Easter Monday	1st April 2013	Term 5	34
May Day Holiday	6th May 2013	Term 6	38
Spring Bank Holiday	27th May 2013	TOTAL	195
Summer Bank Holiday	26th August 2013		

**APPENDIX 2****Option 1 -  
Schools**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>	<b>OPTION</b>
Shaw Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A one day week at the end of July is not workable - schools should choose when to have a TD day.</li><li>• The longer break in October is appreciated by staff.</li><li>• The length of term 2 is a problem without it being longer.</li><li>• Parents do not appreciate an even longer summer break.</li><li>• Either way it's a short week at the end of term 6. 3 days are needed for leaver's services and end of term events.</li></ul>	1
Wilton & Barford Primary	None	1
Brinkworth Earl Danby's	None	1
Christchurch Primary	None	1
Downton Primary	None	1
Wootton Bassett Infants	None	1
Corsham Primary	None	1
Westbury Junior	Prefer shorter term 6.	1
Nursteed Primary	The staff of Nursteed School, Devizes, have considered the proposed options for the school term and holiday dates for 2012-2013. Almost precisely half of us prefer Option 1 and the half prefer Option 2. I appreciate that this is hardly likely to prove a decisive piece of information but having consulted with colleagues I feel duty bound to pass on our opinions! Perhaps it illustrates that you can't please all of the people all of the time. Or, whatever is decided at least some of us will be happy.	1
Greentrees Primary	Only as option 2 has a later break-up date in August - the summer term is so long!	1
Sherston Primary	None	1
All Saints Primary	None	1
Queen's Crescent	None	1

Bemerton St John	None	1
Bybrook Valley	None	1
Avon Valley	None	1
Longford Primary	This was discussed and agreed at a main Governors meeting 27.1.11	1
St John's Primary Tisbury	The Tisbury and Mere cluster group of schools usually follow Dorset term dates. We do not have these for 2012/13 at present but Option 1 looks the most likely.	1
Christian Malford Primary	None	1
Crudwell Primary	None	1
Wylve Valley Primary	Majority of staff prefer Option 1 with the longer break in the Summer. There are a group, including myself who like Option 2 with the longer break in October. Governors, excluding Chair, have not responded!	1
All Cannings	None	1
St Mary's RC Primary	None	1
Broad Chalke Primary	None	1
Pewsey Primary	After consulting with staff, Governors and Parents, our preferred option is Option 1	1
St Paul's Primary	Although Option 1 was preferred the ratio was 15:11 - therefore not a huge majority	1
Minety Primary	Option 1 is the favoured option by both Minety School's FGB and teaching staff who expressed an opinion.	1
Chapmanslade Primary	None	1
Chilton Foliat Primary	None	1
St Augustine's	The Governing Body of St Augustine's met last night and, after considering the consultation with staff it was agreed that Option 1 is preferred.	1
St Peter's Primary, Chippenham	None	1
Forest & Sandridge Primary	None	1
Ashton Keynes Primary	None	1
St Andrews	None	1
Horningsham	None	1

Primary		
Rowdeford School	A total 33 responses were received, with Option 1 being the single preferred option by 17 votes to 16.	1
St Peter's Primary, Devizes	None	1
Mere Primary	We have opted for 1, but Dorset have not issued their dates for 2012/13. We would always take the same holidays as our Dorset feeder school - Cullingham.	1
Crockerton Primary	None	1
Corsham Regis Primary	None	1

**Option 1  
Parents/Other**

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Mrs C Walker	<p><i>I would express a preference for Option 1 for several reasons.</i></p> <p>1 I feel that a longer break during the summer is far more beneficial to the children than a couple of extra days during October half term. During the summer daylight is optimal and important for children's health and growth and so having the extra days in the summers means they can get maximum benefit from being outside during the longer summer days.</p> <p>2 I feel after working hard during the school year both teachers and children benefit from a longer summer holiday to recharge, five weeks isn't enough. This recharge will benefit their immune systems ready for the autumn and winter terms when children are more prone to illness.</p> <p>3 A longer break enables children to have 'down time' as well as 'active time' which I personally feel they don't have enough of in current times. I feel strongly that children benefit from time when they are free to do as they please and see where their imagination takes them. There doesn't always seem to be time during the school week for children to just 'play'. It takes a while for the children to unwind into the holiday and relax and adapt to a different schedule then they need time at the other end to gear up again into a 'school work' frame of mind. I feel a longer summer holiday gives them space to do this.</p> <p>4 A longer break gives working parents more time to plan time off to spend with their children. My husband's company often have an August meeting which cuts right into the holiday, a longer break would give him a greater chance of being able to take time off to be with our children - this is obviously a purely selfish reason but may apply to other parents!</p>	1
Claire Westlake	As a parent with chn in Wiltshire schools I would favour option 1 with a five day holiday in the Oct half term. This is also more in keeping with Hampshire CC	1

Jim & Maria Maddison	I would like Wiltshire to adopt option 1.	1
Trish Totman	I prefer Option 1, though feel that starting the Easter break on 28th March would help even out the term lengths. Also, as our current summer weather is tending towards June and early July, with wet Augusts, wouldn't it be better for the children to benefit from this?	1
Mike Large	Option One Please. And can we make sure the august bank holiday is in a full week of school holiday?	1

TOTAL RESPONSES IN FAVOUR OF OPTION 1 **45**

### Option 2 - Schools

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Lea & Garsdon Primary	None	2
Chirton Primary	None	2
The Minster Primary	None	2
Bowerhill Primary	None	2
Woodlands Primary	Good to have a longer break in the Autumn Term to break it up. This has worked well in previous years.	2
Fynamore Primary	None	2
St John's Primary, Warminster	None	2
Brinkworth Earl Danby's Primary - Governors	Prefer proper 10-day break in October	2
Longmeadow Primary	6 weeks for our children at Longmeadow is too long!	2
Broad Town Primary	None	2

Sutton Veny Primary	Unanimously voted for at a recent staff meeting. The seven day October break is our first preference. Reasons: Shorter summer break for children (less impact on teaching/learning). Term 1 2010/11 is a long/busy term - too long for new children starting in FS2. Work/life balance better in a seven day half term break.	2
Zouch Primary	None	2
Southbroom Infants	Agreed at Governing Body Meeting	2
Bulford St Leonard's Primary	None	2
Forest & Sandridge Primary	An 8 week term one is just TOO Long!	2
Kington St Michael Primary	None	2
Winterslow Primary	None	2
Woodford Valley Primary	None	2
Rowde Primary	None	2
Whiteparish All Saints	None	2
Warminster Kingdown	None	2
Walwayne Court Primary	None	2
Wootton Bassett School	None	2
King's Lodge Primary	None	2
Broad Hinton Primary	None	2
Winsley Primary	None	2
Lydiard Millicent Primary	Option 1: 4 votes Option 2: 12 votes. The Autumn terms are long - it is better if divided by a longer break in October rather than a 6 week summer holiday.	2



Nursteed Primary	The staff of Nursteed School, Devizes, have considered the proposed options for the school term and holiday dates for 2012-2013. Almost precisely half of us prefer Option 1 and the half prefer Option 2. I appreciate that this is hardly likely to prove a decisive piece of information but having consulted with colleagues I feel duty bound to pass on our opinions! Perhaps it illustrates that you can't please all of the people all of the time. Or, whatever is decided at least some of us will be happy.	2
Hilmarton Primary	None	2
St Sampsons Infants	This is the decision of both the Governing Body and the Teaching Staff/Headteacher	2
Holy Trinity Primary	None	2
Ivy Lane Primary	None	2
Wyvern College	7 votes in favour of Option 1, 9 votes in favour of Option 2	2
West Ashton Primary	None	2
North Bradley Primary	None	2
The John Bentley School	None	2
Great Bedwyn	As agreed by governors and staff	2
Alderbury & West Grimstead Primary	As agreed by the governing body	2
Bratton Primary	None	2
Downland	None	2
St Bartholomew's Primary	None	2
Christ The King Primary, Amesbury	None	2
Cherhill Primary	None	2
Wansdyke Primary	None	2
The Mead Primary	Option 2 overwhelmingly! 19 to 1.	2
St Patricks, Corsham	Staff consulted and had preference for option 2. Governing Body supported decision.	2
Kings Park	None	2

Primary		
Ogbourne St George & St Andrew Primary	None	2
Frogwell Primary	None	2
Abbeyfield School	Option 1:14 votes Option 2:19 votes. Comments include: I think that by October students (esp Yr1 and Yr7) need a break - a long one./Option 2 breaks up 2 very long terms, giving staff an opportunity to recharge their batteries in preparation for the long, hard Christmas term./I feel that the longer October break gives staff the chance for a proper break and time to prepare for the Christmas term.	2
Sutton Benger Primary	About a third of our staff responded to the consultation. Of the 7 that responded there were 2 option 1s and 5 option 2s.	2
St John's College, Marlborough	After consultation we would like to support Option 2 regarding the school term and holiday dates for 2012-13.	2
Five Lanes Primary	None	2
Seend Primary	None	2
Oare Primary	None	2
Rushall Primary	None	2
Redland Primary	None	2
St John's Primary, Trowbridge	Ensures better balance to the academic year.	2
Great Wishford Primary	None	2
St Katharine's Primary	None	2
St Georges Catholic Primary	None	2
Pembroke Park Primary	None	2
Stratford-Sub-Castle	None	2
Gomeldon Primary	None	2
Noremarsh Junior	Option 2 is our preferred choice.	2

Winterbourne Earls	Preference of staff and Governors, some of whom are representing the parents. Gives more leeway for taking a weeks holiday.	2
St Osmund's Primary	None	2
Aloeric Primary	None	2

**Option 2  
Parents/Others**

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Councillor Nina Phillips	Option 2.	2
Katie McDonald	As a parent of two children, my preferred option is for a 7 day break in October. This allows people more of a chance to take a holiday without the need to take children out of school for a couple of days, as it is not imperative that you travel from weekend to weekend with the extra two days. Having been used to the extra days in the past, I found it harder to arrange things in 2010, when it was only 5 days.	2
Shaun Gould	Option 2 is the best one, as it gives more time at oct half term, which is better than a longer summer holiday. Spreading the hols around the year, is better as it gives parents more options on holidays, and limits the length of the summer break.	2
Hardenhuish Academy	Consultation and feedback was sought from the staff, parents and wider community through our website. Although not unanimous, option 2 was much preferred.	2
Leah Redding	I would just like to let you know my preference for school term dates is option 2; I think it is better to spread the holidays around the year as much as possible, because the long summer holiday is disruptive for the children and difficult to organise childcare for the parents.	2
Helen Daykin	We would like our thoughts to be considered when reviewing the school holiday format. Option two is our preferred choice allowing more flexibility throughout the rest of the year for holidays.	2
Christina Salaman	As a parent of two children at Five Lanes CE School, Potterne, I would like to show my support for <b>Option 2</b> of the consultation.  In my opinion, the Summer holiday is long enough already. The extra two days added on to the October holiday would be put to better use by pupils and teachers. Terms 1&2 are long terms and fall in the Autumn/Winter period with long periods of darkness. In addition, the longer October holiday would benefit Reception children who have just started school and need a good rest after their initial Term 1. For these reasons I support option 2.	2
Sarum Academy	With regard to the consultation letter and option choices for 2012/13, I would like to advise that Sarum Academy would like to go for Option 2.	2

TOTAL RESPONSES IN FAVOUR OF OPTION 2

**76**

**Miscellaneous comments**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>	<b>OPTION</b>
Whitesheet Primary	Whitesheet CEVA Primary School as part of the Tisbury and Mere Cluster will go with Dorset School dates (when they are published).	
Hindon Primary	As you know we now agree to follow Dorset dates, (when they are available) and have recently agreed again at the cluster meeting and our own FGB meeting to stick to these. Personally I favour the longer summer break.	