SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAYS 2021/22

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this report is to ask the cabinet member to agree the school term and holiday dates for 2021/22 for Wiltshire’s Community, Voluntary Controlled and Community Special Schools.

Consultation
A protocol for the setting of school term and 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 on the two options were completed (see Appendix B).

The responses to the consultation are summarised in Appendix C. The Teachers Joint Consultative Committee and County Secretaries confirm their support for the recommended school term and holiday dates for Wiltshire’s Community, Voluntary Controlled and Community Special Schools detailed in Option 2.

Options Considered
Option 1: Shows a proposed calendar with a five day break in October, with term 6 ending on Thursday 21st July.

Option 2: Shows a proposed calendar with a seven day October break, with term 6 ending on Monday 25th 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.
INTENTION TO MAKE DECISION

Following consultation with officers I give notice that I intend to make the decision set out in the attached report. If you would like to make any representations to me on this issue please do so by ______ (DS will insert the date which will be 5 working days from date of publication).

The following supporting documents are attached:
Appendix A – Report to the Joint Consultative Committee on 14 November 2019
Appendix B – Consultation letter including proposed term dates calendar for 2021/22
Appendix C – Report to the Joint Consultative Committee on 18 June 2020

Cabinet member:
Laura Mayes

Cabinet member contact details:
Laura.Mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk

Date:
1. **Purpose of Report**
The purpose of this report is to ask the cabinet member to agree the school term and holiday dates for 2021/22 for Wiltshire’s Community, Voluntary Controlled and Community Special Schools.

2. **Relevance to the Council’s Business Plan**
Not applicable.

3. **Main Considerations for the Council**
In order to fulfil our statutory duties under 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.

4. **Background**
A protocol for the setting of school term and holiday dates has been endorsed by the Teachers Joint Consultative Committee and County Secretaries.

The South West Officers Group, made up of officers from neighbouring Local Authorities, co-ordinate several times a year to facilitate consultation to ensure that we propose similar, if not the same, dates.

All proposed term dates are sent out for consultation to our Teachers, School Governors, Members, Parents and Public, and all comments are included in the consultation feedback prior to the dates being finalised. The final decision is made under the delegated authority of the Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Skills, in consultation with the Teachers’ Joint Consultative Committee.

Each school has a statutory responsibility to operate 380 sessions - the equivalent of 190 days - direct teaching to children each year. Schools in Wiltshire have indicated a strong preference for 195 day calendar which permits 5 staff development days to be set within term time dates. The Headteacher and Governors of each individual school determine when these days are taken.
5. **Overview & Scrutiny Engagement**  
Not applicable

6. **Safeguarding Implications**  
There are no safeguarding implications involved in this decision.

7. **Public Health Implications**  
There are no public health implications associated with this decision.

8. **Procurement Implications**  
There are no procurement implications involved in this decision.

9. **Equalities Impact of the Proposal**  
There are no adverse equalities implications associated with this decision.

10. **Environmental and Climate Change Considerations**  
There are no impacts on the environment and climate associated with this decision.

11. **Risk Assessment**  
If the decision is not taken then there is a risk that the Local Authority fails to comply with statutory obligations.

12. **Financial Implications**  
There are no financial implications associated with this decision.

13. **Legal Implications**  
Consideration has been given to whether or not there are any ethical or governance issues or any Human Rights implications, and none have been identified.

14. **Options Considered**  
**Option 1:** Shows a proposed calendar with a five day break in October, with term 6 ending on Thursday 21st July.

**Option 2:** Shows a proposed calendar with a seven day October break, with term 6 ending on Monday 25th July.

15. **Reason for Proposal**  
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.

16. **Proposal**  
To approve the 195 day calendar for School Term & Holiday Dates for 2021/22 as shown in Option 2.

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:  
*(Background papers must be published, label as background papers)*