

JCC
18 June 2020

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2021/22

Purpose

1. The purpose of this item is:
 - i) to report the findings of the consultation regarding proposed school term and holiday dates for 2021/22.
 - 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 2021/22.

School Term & Holiday Dates – 2021/22

2. In line with the recommendation of the JCC at its meeting in November 2019 a variety of interested parties including schools, neighbouring authorities, diocese plus others have been consulted on proposed term dates for 2021/22 (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 2021/22. The majority of our neighbours to the south west have consulted on dates similar to Wiltshire's proposal.

Proposal

5. The JCC is invited to consider the responses to the consultation on the proposed school term and holiday dates for 2021/22 and decide whether to confirm its support for the dates detailed in Option 2 of Appendix 1.

Terence Herbert
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PEOPLE

Option 1

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2021-22

5 day October break

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

	Dec-21					Jan-22					Feb-22					
Monday	6	13	20	27			3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Tuesday		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	
Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	
Thursday	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
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	

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

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

<u>Bank and Public Holidays 2021/2022</u>			
Christmas Day Holiday	27th December 2021	Term 1	38
Boxing Day Holiday	28th December 2021	Term 2	35
New Years Holiday	3rd January 2022	Term 3	34
Good Friday	15th April 2022	Term 4	30
Easter Monday	18th April 2022	Term 5	24
May Day Holiday	2nd May 2022	Term 6	34
Spring Bank Holiday	30th May 2022	TOTAL	195
Summer Bank Holiday	29th August 2022		

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

Option 2

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2021-22
7 day October break



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

	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22
Monday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
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

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

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

Bank and Public Holidays 2021/2022			
Christmas Day Holiday	27th December 2021	Term 1	36
Boxing Day Holiday	28th December 2021	Term 2	35
New Years Holiday	3rd January 2022	Term 3	34
Good Friday	15th April 2022	Term 4	30
Easter Monday	18th April 2022	Term 5	24
May Day Holiday	2nd May 2022	Term 6	36
Spring Bank Holiday	30th May 2022	TOTAL	195
Summer Bank Holiday	29th August 2022		

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

Option 1 - 5 Day October break

Schools

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Christ Church CE (VC) Primary School	Please note that Christ Church CE (VC) Primary School (865/3015) would choose Option 1.	1
Matravers School	Matravers School will adopt Option 1 for academic year 2021/22. This will enable extra teaching time for Year 11 and Year 13 during their final year of study thus prioritising pupil outcomes.	1

Academies

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Malmesbury Primary School	The preference from Malmesbury Primary School would be for option 1 - a 5 day holiday in October and an earlier end to the summer term. We're an academy, so technically we can set our own dates, but in practice we follow the LA timetable.	1
Sheldon School	Having considered the options on the table for the term dates, we would be strongly in favour of Option 1, finishing earlier in July 2022. As a secondary school, we would request as long as possible ahead of examination results coming in to school, which inevitably curtails our holiday for a large number of staff.	1

TOTAL school responses 4

Parents/other

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Parent	Personally as a parent I would prefer option 1 with the 5 day break at October half term. I find that my children struggle with the long summer term rather than the longer term in September when they come back more refreshed after summer break.	1
Parent	I would favour the option 1, with a shorter half term break and longer summer break	1
Parent	I feel by the end of the year, the extra days in the summer are wasted as many children leave early anyway and therefore take unauthorised absence.	1
Parent	As someone who works in education my preferred option is option 1. By finishing later in the summer term 6 is too long at the end of the year. Children and staff are too tired to do any effective work in this time. As a parent who works in a neighbouring authority, child care is difficult over the longer half term in October. It is also difficult when you have children in different authorities with different dates. This is a particular difficulty for those in the south of the county who border Hampshire and Dorset.	1
Parent	I would like to register my preference for 2021-2022 term dates to be a normal week for half term and a longer summer holiday.	1
Parent	I would prefer to. Go with option 1.	1

Parent	I believe that the school closure dates proposed in option 1, is the better option.	1
Parent	I would prefer option one shorter October holiday and longer summer holidays.	1
Parent	I would prefer option one a longer summer holidays when the children have more chance of getting outside and enjoying the summertime weather rather than longer in the October half term.	1
Parent	Having three children two who are in Wiltshire schools and one in Hampshire, I would assume option 1 is the best IF this is going to mean the same holidays for all of my children.	1
Parent	I would prefer option 1 as my husband works in neighbouring authority so we would like to spend more time in the summer together. Please think about families.	1
Parent	I would like to vote for option 1 with longer summer holidays favoured by neighbouring counties	1
Parent	Please don't reduce the summer holidays, so important to have the opportunity for outdoor play and family time while the weather is good.	1
Parent	I would like to vote for option 1 with term 6 ending on 21st July	1
Parent	I would preter option 1 please if you can register my preference please, for the summer holidays to commence 21 July 2022. And to have 5 days for October half term.	1
Teacher/Parent	I am a local primary school teacher and mother of two primary aged children in local schools and would much prefer the first option.	1
Parent	Option 1 is the better of the 2 options. But it would be even better if the summer holidays were in line with Scotland's summer holidays particularly as the beginning of July is better weather, the children often struggle to concentrate in school and should not be stuck in the classroom. The weather at the end of August has usually deteriorated and therefore it is more beneficial to be back at school learning.	1
Teacher	I am a teacher. The summer holidays need to start earlier. Every year staff and pupils spend most of July roasting alive in classrooms where temperatures regularly reach 30 degrees. No learning can take place in these temperatures. The whole summer holiday needs moving forwards by a month. July is summer, August is Autumn. Failing that sensible option, breaking up a few days earlier is preferable.	1
Parent	As a family who works I find the longer October half-term harder to cover in terms of childcare so would like to vote for Option 1	1
Parent	I would rather see a longer summer holiday. I feel my children benefit from a long holiday so that they can totally unwind. As a working Mum I find it easier to find holiday cover for larger chunks of time and it is preferable to take may annual leave in the summer.	1
School PSA	I would prefer option 1.	1

Parent	I am a parent of two boys one at Woodford. primary and one at Bishops, I also work at Woodford Primary. I find the October half term to be the least enjoyable of all the holidays as a parent, the weather is poor and it is increasingly difficult to find inexpensive ways to fill the days with the children. Academically losing precious time in October term will not help with SATs results. Allowing children a lengthy break in the summer allows them time to recoup and prepare for the following year. This is particularly important after the pressure of exams.	1
Parent	I would like option 1 – five day break in October	1
Smiley Face Nursery	As a nursery who have many children attending term-time only, as well as several staff who are employed term time only. We have asked our staff to decide which option would work better for the nursery, and also for the employees. We have a resounding vote for option 1.	1
Parent	When I first heard that changes were being proposed I assumed that it would be along the lines of the changes made when I was at school, albeit an awfully long time ago now! The changes made then were that we had the summer holidays reduced by week to 5 weeks with a two week October half term. However, of the two options being considered, Option 1 would be the one I would support as it doesn't really seem any benefit to tag on the two extra days for schools to have to open up for one day on Monday 25th as proposed in Option 2. I am sure parents and teachers alike would welcome having Friday 22nd July to get themselves sorted for the holidays rather than prolonging it over the weekend for a dreaded Monday!	1
Parent	Hello, please keep the longer summer holiday, don't make it shorter. In fact it should be at least 2 weeks longer than it is now.	1
Parent	I believe Option 1 (a shorter October half term and an earlier finish in July) would be the most sensible way forward, as most families would choose to take their children away over the Summer months, be it overseas or in the UK. The fact that all local authorities have varying approaches could therefore mean that although prices may still be inflated they will not be as inflated as the following week, this could be highly beneficial for hard working families to take advantage of, but also reduce the likelihood of parents taking their children out of school early before the school summer term finishes. At this time of year also, more options are available to parents due to the weather, particularly in terms of UK holidaying so in turn could mean more families could benefit from a UK based holiday at a more affordable price, in turn further benefiting the UK economy. This seems sensible from the perspective of hard working families, to assist in the drive in reducing school absenteeism and in further supporting the UK economy, therefore I fully support option 1.	1
Parent	Option 1	1

Parent	This is to let you know that our family is in favour of a longer summer school holiday break as suggested in OPTION 1 of your 2021/2022 school holiday calendar	1
Parent	With regard to the consultation on term dates for 2021/22 I would definitely prefer option one on this occasion. Whilst the Summer hols are long already and I would normally prefer to spread the holidays more, breaking up on Monday 25th July seems a crazy idea. The children wouldn't do anything useful at school and I would imagine that absenteeism for that one day would be very high, especially if other counties have broken up. Holiday clubs and activities are likely to run from Mon 25th, so the children would potentially miss out on the first day. Also, quite a number of children at my child's school have siblings at Hampshire schools so I would personally prefer that Wiltshire hols were aligned with Hampshire as much as possible.	1
Teacher	I think option 1 would be better so all schools are in line with each other for holiday	1
Parent	In relation to my views on the term dates calendar, I would support option 1.	1
Parent	I would also like to voice my preference for Option 1.	1
Parent	Following the email from our head teacher this morning regarding term dates I would like to voice my preference for Option 1 (five day break in October, with Term 6 ending on Thursday 21st July).	1
Parent	I'm emailing with regard to the consultation over school holidays for the 2021/22 academic year. My preference is OPTION 1, the traditional 5 day October break with pupils breaking up for the summer on the 21st July. Having two children in a Hampshire school and one in a Wiltshire I find the longer half term frustrating and out of sync especially when inset days are tacked on. I note that you are consulting with 'neighboring authorities in the South West', does that therefore not include Hampshire? If not, why?	1
Parent	I am writing to express my opinion on the consultation regarding the Wiltshire term dates 2021/22, following an article I read last week on Spire FM News. As a mother of a 3 and a half year old boy, who will start reception class this year in Devizes, I strongly recommend the option 1, which would see the more traditional five day break in October, with pupils breaking up for the Summer on Thursday 21st July 2022. Without doubt a longer summer break would do only good to children in terms of enjoying the sun and absorbing the healthy vitamin D as much as possible. Is it not true? I am certain it is! In addition, what is the point of having a longer October break just after the Summer holidays and before Christmas? To conclude, I hope to have been firmly convincing on my preference for option 1 and I look forward to hear the result.	1
Parent	We going to go for Option 1- 5day break in October, term 6 ending on Thursday 21st July.	1

Parent	<p>I have read on your website there is consultation over term dates in Wiltshire. I would like to express my strong preference for option 1 for the following reasons: After the summer break the children and teachers do not require an extended break from the classrooms October</p> <p>It is inconvenient for families who have siblings at secondary schools and family members in neighbouring areas not to have the same term dates, the majority of the country only have one week in Oct. The summer time has much better weather to enable families to enjoy the outdoors and take part in healthy sporty activities, in October the weather is typically cold and wet, you often have to spend money on activities and stay indoors, you are much more likely to partake in sedentary activities in the October holidays. There is a high chance of parents not taking their child / children in to school for just a Monday and so absence rates could be significantly impacted by having the end of term on a Monday.</p> <p>I hope Wiltshire drops this odd extended break in October and <u>instead extends the summer break.</u></p>	1
Parent	I would support option 1.	1
Parent	With regard to the term dates consultation for 2021/22, I would like to express a preference for option 1 please.	1

TOTAL parent responses 40

Option 2 - 7 Day October break

Schools

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
St Sampson's CE Primary School	I am in favour of Option 2 with the 7 day break at October half term	2
Heddington Church of England Primary School	Option 2 please	2
Hilmarton Primary School	Hilmarton School staff prefer option 2 with the longer break in October	2
St Barnabas Church of England School Market Lavington	Having looked at the two options, St Barnabas Primary School (SN10 4NT) would like to propose option 2.	2
Fynamore Primary School	I'd like to confirm our preference for Option 2	2
St Thomas à Becket CE Primary School	We have consulted widely and would like to register our preference as Option 2 (7 day October break)	2
Kings Lodge School	The preference at our school is for option 2	2
Greentrees Primary School	Greentrees prefers Option 2	2
Crockerton CE VA Primary School	Please accept this email as notification of our wish to favour Option 2 for the proposed school terms and holiday dates 2021/22.	2
Colerne CofE Primary School	Colerne CE School would like to choose Option 2, thank you.	2
Neston Primary School	We have consulted with our staff and our statistics are: Option 1 (5 day Oct Break) = 2 Option 2 (7 day Oct Break) = 26	2
St Paul's Primary School	I placed the two options in our staffroom and of the 13 staff who had a preference 8 preferred Option 2 and 5 preferred Option 1.	2
St. George's Catholic Primary School	St. George's have consulted on the school terms and holiday dates for 2021-2022 and would vote for Option 2.	2
St Mary's Church of England Primary School Purton	Option 2 preferred.	2
Winterslow Church of England Aided Primary School	Winterslow Primary school would like to propose Option 2 for term dates 2021-22.	2
St Nicholas Church of England VC Primary School Bromham	Feedback from this school is Option 2 please.	2
Abbeyfield School	Abbeyfield School would like to go with Option 2 for the term dates for 2021/22	2
St Joseph's Catholic School Salisbury	We would prefer option 2	2
The Stonehenge School	Option 2 please	2
Rowdeford School	At Rowdeford School the SLT have discussed the two options and we support Option 2.	2
Larkrise School	Option 2	2

Academies

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Dauntsey Academy Primary School	I have had no feedback from parents but staff feedback is weighed towards Option 2	2
Netheravon All Saints CE Primary School	Staff at Netheravon primary school have voted 10/4 in favour of maintaining the longer October ½ term. Option 2.	2
St John's Marlborough	Further to your recent consultation email with regard to School Term and Holiday dates for 2021/2022, the Senior Leadership Team have discussed both options and as requested to inform you, our preferred option is Option 2.	2

TOTAL school responses 24

Parents/other

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Parent	Please may it be noted that, as a parent of primary-aged children, I prefer remaining with Option 2	2
Parent	I would like to vote for Option 2; seven day break in the October half term and school year finishing 25th July.	2
School Admin Officer	I would opt for Option 2	2
Parent	My children are at Walwayne court school in R, Year 4 and Year 6 and I prefer the option 2	2
Parent	I would prefer option 2 and this is because as a working parent it's easier to find the extra odd day of childcare rather than having to find extra weeks in the summer. I also believe that 6 weeks is too long for summer and this makes it incredibly difficult not only for the parents to find childcare, but for the children to be out of routine for so long, going back to school is difficult for them even after 2 weeks let alone 6.	2
Parent	In my opinion, the option with the extended October half term break is much better (from a teacher's and parent's perspective).	2
Parent	We have three children in Wiltshire schools and would very much favour the option of a longer October half term & shorter summer holiday please.	2

Parent	Our preferred option as a family is for OPTION 2. This is due to having a child with additional needs. Having those two days prior to neighbouring counties means that we can have one or two days out as a family before the attractions become very busy. We are unable to visit during the school holidays due to them being overwhelming for my son and as we are unable to take him for days out in term time any longer we rarely have time when we can do these things, meaning not only does he miss out but so does his older sister.	2
Parent	I would much rather option 2. A slightly longer Oct half term would be great. The summer holidays is always much too long and I'd appreciate a longer break with my children in October.	2
Parent	My preference for the school holiday dates in 2021-2022 is for the longer October break, option two. As an ex-teacher and parent to three children, I feel that the autumn term is so long that the children and staff need the extra time to rest and recover.	2
Parent	I would like to vote for option 2 please, the extended, 7 day October half term. I personally feel the summer holidays are already long enough and last year my children were keen to get back to school. However, they were both extremely tired after the first half term and the extra days with them in October really helped to relax and reenergise them ready for the new term ahead. It also gives families the opportunity to take a longer, likely more cost effective holiday in October half term, as one is able to travel on the Wednesday evening or Thursday/Friday when many other children in the country are still at school. I believe this will, in turn, also lead to less unauthorised absence for holidays during term time.	2
Parent	With two primary aged children we would prefer option 2 with a longer break in October to break a long term.	2
Parent	As a parent of a 4 and 8 year old who go to school in Salisbury I would much prefer option 2, with the extra days tagged into the October half term. The summer holidays are more than long enough already - in fact, I would go further and make the summer holiday 4 weeks long and spread the extra days over all of the other holidays. We love having a longer October half term, our school often adds extra td days to it enabling us to sometimes go abroad if we can. It is also beneficial for reception children to have longer in this holiday as they are often extra tired after starting school.	2
Parent	I think it would be much better to have a longer October half term, this is the longest term for the kids and also the busiest with Christmas plays, fayres etc also for the reception class this is a term of huge change for them and to have a bigger rest for them is much more beneficial rather than extending the summer holidays which is already 6 weeks. If possible I think it should be considered a 4 week break for summer and two weeks for October. The kids would cope with the end of the year much better.	2
Parent	I am overwhelmingly in favour of a longer October half term and shorter summer. This would enable our annual family holiday to have more flexibility, as currently (working at the hospital) leave is so restricted in the summer and obviously prices are higher too. By enabling some families to take their longer holiday in October, it frees up the summer for some who will be able to stay at work and cover their colleagues. Plus I think it's better for children not to have such a long break from school, it can definitely get them out of the routine. I hope things can stay as they currently are with the longer half term. For instance, it's allowing us to go to Thailand for my step children to learn to scuba dive - a very worthwhile holiday for them and wouldn't be possible if the break was only five days!	2
Parent	I am emailing to share my support for option 2 of the school year proposal. This is for a number of reasons: 1. As a working parent the school holidays are already a challenge to arrange childcare for. 2. The extra 2 days in October give the option of going on a longer holiday at a more reasonable cost than the summer holidays. Allowing quality time for the family. Getting time off over the summer together can be a challenge for my husband and I due to work. 3. The first term is long for Children just starting school and having had a child start in reception class this year, the longer break helped him reset ahead of the run up to Christmas which is a busy time of year both at home and at school.	2
Teacher	I am a Primary teacher and would favour option 2 for 2020-21	2
Parent	Option 2 for academic year 21/22	2
Parent	I would like to vote for option 2 dates for the acedemic year of 2021/2022	2
Parent	Option 2 preferentially	2
Parent	I would like to vote for Option 2 for academic year 21/22 please	2
Parent	A vote for Option 2 (the longer October half term) Definitely in the best interest of the wellbeing of my two children	2
Parent	My preferred would be the longer October break, so option 2. The summer holidays in July/August are more than long enough and I would rather a longer break in October as we've had the past few years to help with both childcare and the children themselves.	2
Parent	My son goes to St John's CE primary school in Lower Bemerton in Salisbury. I vote for Option 2 for 2021/22	2
School Admin Officer	As a school Admin officer I think that option 2 would be good as it allows parents and staff the opportunity to book a holiday at a slightly cheaper time to the summer holidays. The summer holidays are long as it is and it can be a cause of stress for some families for various reasons. In my opinion the summer holidays do not need to start that early, especially as many schools put up to 4 TDD at the beginning of the summer holidays.	2

Parent	As a full time working parent my opinion would be for option 2 trying to get child care for 6 weeks holiday that they don't need (3 weeks off is more than enough for them). Having to find extra child care for these days become very difficult. I for one do not claim a benefit as I like to show my children we work hard for what we have so makes my child costs rather expensive so a few days not adding onto a 6 week hefty bill would definitely help.	2
Parent	I agree with option two - longer October half term due to making it a couple of less days trying to cover childcare for the 5/6 weeks summer holiday break. Due to both parents working and the cost of childcare and having very few family members to look after the children whilst we are at work. A shorter summer holiday to a four week period and slightly longer February/May/October half term to compensate what would have been the six week holiday would make life so much easier to manage for us working parents. However if would be lovely to be able to earn the same amount of money and have all holidays off with the children to be able to spend quality time with them. Still looking for that perfect role 🙏	2
Parent	As a working parent I would prefer a longer October 1/2 term than a longer summer. The reason being that it is easier to take leave and arrange childcare in smaller chunks so adding it to summer would make summer cover near impossible as it is already too long to take off in its entirety, but adding a bit onto October breaks up the leave requirement and is easier to fit childcare around work commitments. Please take on board my comments before making your decision.	2
Parent	Option 2 is our preferred schedule. We find the summer holiday is long enough for the children. I think it would be more beneficial financially and for the children to have the longer breaks through out the year and have a few days less in the summer.	2
Parent	I just wanted to submit my opinion that option 2 of the longer October half term is my preference	2
Parent	I much prefer the option with a seven day October break, with term 6 ending on Monday 25th July. This is because the summer holiday is already a very long holiday and the children don't benefit from those extra few days off as they won't be noticed in such a long holiday already. In October, the children are tired from the return to school in September and need a break after finding their way in their new school years. For most, settling into their new routine is hard work so they are so ready for a longer October break. I hope you take these points into consideration.	2
Parent	I would like to register that as a parent of children in a Wiltshire school option 2 would work well for us and opens up the opportunity to take the children abroad at an affordable cost out of term time.	2
Parent	We wish to express our view that we would be in agreement with Option 2. To have a longer break at October half term is very beneficial as our children are often needing a good break then and if the holidays were longer, it would also have the advantage of enabling us to book a break away, prices being slightly being cheaper than in August. Its our belief that the summer holidays are a bit too long which causes challenges for working parents as you cannot always take all your annual leave at that time if the business needs don't allow.	2
Parent	Making the summer break even longer, while maybe allowing for a slightly cheaper holiday at the beginning is probably offset by the additional cost of childcare. We would prefer option 2, a longer October break.	2
Parent	On viewing the Options I would vote for Option 2.	2
Parent	I would prefer option 2 with the longer break in October, for the last couple of years where we have enjoyed a longer October break- this has helped us have a family holiday when other schools are not typically off and have been able to save money and go away when it is quieter. I really enjoy the longer half term break.	2
Parent	I would like to express my preference for the Wiltshire Term Dates as Option 2, i.e. longer Oct half term and shorter summer holiday. I have one child currently in Year 2 and another due to start school in September and I am also a teacher in a local primary school.	2
Parent	Having viewed the options option 2 is preferred. Shorter summer holidays and longer October for kids to have slightly longer to recover from term one	2
Parent	I would prefer option 2 with a longer October break.	2
Parent	I would like to put a vote in for option 2, I find it very useful to have the extra few days then when booking to go abroad.	2
Parent	Having viewed the options, I much prefer option 2. I think that shorter summer holidays and longer October half term so that the kids to have slightly longer to recover from the shock and awe of term one	2
Parent	We like option 2 for academic year 21/22	2
Parent	I have 3 children in a small school in Wiltshire and my husband is also a teacher at a Wiltshire school. We really like the longer half term in October, as it allows us to be able to visit attractions when they are slightly quieter as other schools are still in term time. The summer holidays are still a long break for the children so they can feel refreshed and ready to start the new academic year.	2

Teacher	I am writing to you to place my chosen option for school holidays forward of OPTION 2. As a teacher in a local secondary school who has worked with both this system, as well as a shorter half term, I cannot let you know how much better a longer half term is. The autumn term is the longest, hardest term and to have the extra time is brilliant. The 2 days here are of far more benefit to both staff and students than a couple of extra days in summer. Teachers who I know who are out of this area are envious of this set up we have. As teachers it allows us time to properly relax, improving wellbeing, mental health and retention. For our pupils, it enables them to unwind and relax from a stressful term. I urge you to keep the situation we have and let common sense prevail	2
Parent	I know there are lots of things to consider, but from personal experience the extra days on the October holiday make a huge difference to many families, giving greater options for holidays and a well deserved break in a long term. Where as leaving them tagged on to the summer make less of a difference as you already have a lot of flexibility and for many families it feels long already. So for us Option 2 is preferred.	2
Parent	My family would all like to opt for the longer half-term.	2
Parent	I would opt for option 2 longer October and shorter summer as its always more challenging to find child care for a longer period over the summer holidays and I need to take more time off of work to look after the children or find extra money to pay for the child care	2
Parent	I would opt for option 2 longer October and shorter summer as its always more challenging to find child care for a longer period over the summer holidays and I need to take more time off of work to look after the children or find extra money to pay for the child care	2
Parent	I'm the parent of children who attends St Mary's School in Purton, Wiltshire. I'm just emailing in response to the consultation. I feel that the children really struggle with the long and very busy Term 1 and Term 2. This year St Mary's put TD days at the beginning of the October half term to give the children a 2 week half term. That was hugely beneficial to my children to have a longer break between Term 1 and Term 2. They were able to recover more from adjusting to their new school classes and have a better rest before entering into an incredibly busy and long term in the run up to Christmas. For that reason, I would encourage the council to choose option 2 to give the children a longer break in the October half term.	2
Parent	As a parent myself I would prefer Option 2, longer October Holiday and shorter Summer holiday which would be beneficial for myself and save monies for childcare	2
Parent	I would like to select Option 2 as my personal preference, as it is harder trying to sort out childcare for a long summer break.	2
Parent	We would prefer the October option as our son will have just started secondary school and it will be good for him to have a few extra recovery days in October. Also with a shorter summer holiday it would reduce the learning loss for children who don't do any refresh work over the holidays	2
Parent	I believe that in the winter time children are under the weather and need a longer break- to support the fact that they need rest and time to recover. This isn't the case in the summer. 5 weeks is plenty.	2
Teacher and Parent	I prefer option 2 with the 7 day October half term as the two autumn terms are always such long terms. It gives the children and teachers more of a break in between before the long lead up to Christmas in that term which is always so busy and tiring for children.	2
Parent	I am emailing to express that I would like to vote for option 2 a 7 day October half term and shorter summer break.	2
Teaching Staff	I fully support OPTION 2 and retaining the current school holidays. As a member of Teaching Staff it enables me to go on a much needed holiday with my family at slightly cheaper fees than the following week, before the costs rocket out of most of peoples reach. This enables me to recharge my batteries which is crucial for the long and busy Christmas term. The children in my Reception class find their first whole term exhausting, both physically and mentally and this extended break enables them to catch up on some extra sleep and relaxation. I do hope that the holidays remain as they have done for the last few years and see little point in changing what currently works. The majority of parents already find the extremely long summer holidays difficult to find alternative cost effective child care as it is, without making them any longer.	2
Parent	I would prefer option 2 for the proposed school holidays in 2021-2022	2

Teacher and Parent	<p>I would much prefer OPTION 2 - longer holiday in October and slightly shorter in the summer.</p> <p>From a teachers point of view: Us teachers work tirelessly at schools, and after an 8 week term where I'm working on average 70 hours a week, I need a break. A proper break. Ideally a 2 week break, before my next 8 week slog to the Christmas holidays. I don't see my children as much as I would like due to my working hours. Half term breaks and end of term holidays are my down time where I get to spend precious time with my children.</p> <p>I would strongly recommend that you ask all teachers to complete the survey about what hours they want. IF you go for 1 week in October you will get a lot of burnt out teachers. The extra 2 days in October is a godsend.</p> <p>From a parents point of view: My children love school, they work hard and are activate the whole time either physically or mentally. But it is tiring, especially for the younger ones and you can tell when it gets towards the end of term. They need a rest, they need downtime, they need family time. 8 weeks non-stop is hard work for a 5 and 7 year old, especially with the pressures put on them at school these days. I don't want my kids to start resenting school as they are so tired.</p> <p>Please do not revert back to 1 week in October, it is a very long term (15 - 16 weeks) where the nights are getting darker and the whether colder. That 1.5 week break is essential to mental well-being.</p>	2
Teacher (Preschool)	I vote for the second option for term dates. It shortens the first term which is needed for the young children we care for.	2
Parent	Definitely option 2. The summer holidays are long enough, having a longer break in October is more feasible. Spread the holiday out a bit!!	2
Parent	I choose option two	2
Parent	I would like to vote for option 2 and keep the school holidays the same	2
Parent	<p>My preferred choice for schools holidays would be Option 2: Would see a longer October half term consisting of 7 school days with pupils breaking up on Monday 25th July.</p> <p>I believe they need the longer rest in October as they start a new year there is lots to take in and routines to sort. I have found this term is around 6 weeks and the additional rest then is needed the summer break is plenty longer enough for holidays so to lose a few days will not make a huge difference</p>	2
Teacher & Parent	<p>Please leave the October break as it is. As a parent and a teacher I can tell you with certainty that the second half of that term will be much harder for all without those extra few days. Attendance figures will also take a huge hit as many go on holiday during those first few days as it allows cheaper travel for families as it is not yet the 'national' half term.</p> <p>May I suggest that it is appropriate to consult properly, by way of an online vote, marketed locally through the press with all stakeholders.</p>	2
Parent	As a parent of two children at primary school in Salisbury I very much favour option 2 for the 2021/2022 year with the longer October holiday and shorter summer holiday. The first term of each school year is long, hectic and exhausting so a longer October half term break is much more useful to the children's well being than a couple of extra days in the long summer holiday.	2
Parent	I much prefer the longer October break which allows for flexibility over booking a holiday/other schools are not off at the same time and less time off to be taken in the summer holidays albeit a long break anyway. Please remain as we are.	2
Parent	I would like to support the dates for a 7 day break in October.	2
Teacher	<p>I am a teacher (working in Amesbury) and I feel the 7 day break at October half term is preferable to both staff and children. Term 1 is always a longer term and it takes time for children to get back into the swing of things after the long summer break. Having a longer half term, means they can rest properly.</p> <p>Having the extra 2 days at half term, also means holidays are much cheaper and is a good reason to stay working in Wiltshire.</p> <p>The summer break is already fairly long and having an extra 2 days in summer doesn't really have an impact. If anything, the children don't need a longer summer.</p> <p>Therefore, it is my opinion we should remain with 7 days off in October half term.</p>	2
Parent	I would like to vote for option 2 wrt to the school term and holiday consultation.	2
Parent	I would like to choose option 2 please.	2
Parent	<p>I would like to vote for Option 2 please. Having to find 6 weeks childcare and annual leave is so difficult when both parents work full time. It gives families no time to have a decent break as a family.</p> <p>It would also be better if you considered reducing the summer holidays by 1 wk and adding that week to the May half term.</p>	2
Parent	We would prefer option 2 for term dates in 21/22.	2

Parent	I am emailing to voice my preference to keep Option 2 of the School Term and Holiday Dates. Option 2 allows children the extra few days during the October half term to recoup and recover from a busy first half term back after the long Summer holidays. My daughter aged 6 who has Perthes and walks with a frame, has found the first half term of the school year exhausting, both physically and mentally. A new school year for little ones takes a lot out of them, what with new routines, new teachers, timetables and a whole lot of new learning challenges. Of all the holidays throughout the year I have always felt that Wiltshire have 'got it right' by tagging on the extra few days to the October half term holiday. Allowing their children a little more time to gather themselves before heading straight into the crazy Autumn second half term, which is often filled up with lots of extra curricular activities revolving around Christmas. I believe it must also be hugely beneficial for the teachers who have a considerable amount of extra planning, not only curriculum planning but Nativity Plays, Carol Concerts, Christmas activities etc. Please keep the 7 day October half term as it really does make a difference!	2
Parent	As a parent, our preference would be 2 extra days in October.	2
Parent	I write in favour of the longer October holiday of 7 days, which in-turn reduces the summer holiday. The summer holiday puts way too much pressure on childcare for both my wife and I with regard to our employers authorising a huge stint of annual leave in one block. Any plans to reduce the long summer holiday would certainly get our vote. The main summer holiday is way too long. Why not give the children a longer break elsewhere throughout the year? Thank you for your consideration.	2
Teacher	As a teacher in Wiltshire I would like to express preference for option 2. The two autumn/winter terms are very tiring and having the longer half term really makes a difference.	2
Parent	I have a daughter in Y8 (Sheldon) and a son in Y6 (Colerne). My thoughts are: a) terms of over 6 weeks start to take their toll on children, and probably the teachers, b) the autumn term with its span from the start of September to end of December is very long. c) the illness rates in the autumn term can be high (certainly those at Colerne school last term) d) the autumn term is particularly demanding, and exhausting, for reception age children and Y7s Therefore I think option 2 with the longer October half term holiday would be of benefit.	2
Parent	I vote for option 2. I feel the time scale is too short. People have planned their holidays this year. Another factor is, it's hard enough to cover work commitments and a long summer break for the children, without adding extra days to this. Does this stretch to secondary schools?	2
Parent	Option 2 would be preferable	2
Parent	I prefer option 2 with a 7 day break in October.	2
Parent	I have seen the proposed term dates for 2021-22 and would prefer option 2 which is a longer october half term and shorter summer holidays. We would prefer this option due to working in a catering trade where we already struggle between the conflict of school holidays being opposite to trade holidays.	2
Parent	I would prefer option 2 with a longer break in October. It gives the children more rest within the school year and still allows a good length of break over the summer.	2
Teacher	With regard to the proposed dates for the autumn term, I would like to support the second option ie to have a 7 day break in October. It is an extremely long term and, as a primary school teacher, I feel that the children benefit hugely in terms of rest and recuperation from the extra two days' holiday in the middle of the term. Thank you for your consideration of my views.	2

TOTAL parent responses 83

Miscellaneous comments

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Parent	With regard to the changes to the holidays I think that we should keep the 5 days in October but rather than finish earlier in July, why can't you add those days onto Christmas! being a member of a school's teaching staff I know I would appreciate the extra few days of before!	
Governor/Parent from the New Forest Primary School	My only concern is being a school on the Wiltshire / Hampshire border we are likely to have students with siblings attending Hampshire schools. Unilateral changes to school holidays by Wiltshire can potentially result in unnecessary childcare issues / costs for these families. I might also add the likelihood of increased unauthorised absence as it may further restrict parental ability to get work holiday periods that coincide with both school holidays.	
The Mead Community Primary School	Have had the two options of proposed term dates for 2021-2022, of those who chose to express a preference, 22 people ticked option 1 and 22 people ticked option 2 .	