

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NO.

**County Secretaries
07 February 2013**

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2014/15

Purpose

1. The purpose of this item is:
 - i) to report the findings of the consultation regarding proposed school term and holiday dates for 2014/15.
 - ii) to confirm County Secretaries' support for the recommended school term and holiday dates for Wiltshire's Community, Voluntary Controlled and Community Special Schools for the school year 2014/15.

School Term & Holiday Dates – 2014/15

2. In line with the recommendation of the JCC at its meeting in December 2012 a variety of interested parties including schools, neighbouring authorities, diocese plus others have been consulted on proposed term dates for 2014/15 (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 2014/15. The majority of our neighbours to the south west have consulted on dates similar, if not identical, to Wiltshire's proposal.

Proposal

5. The County Secretaries are invited to consider the responses to the consultation on the proposed school term & holiday dates for 2014/15 and decide whether to confirm its support for the dates detailed in Option 3.

CAROLYN GODFREY
DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Appendix 1

Proposed Term Dates 2014/2015 School Year
Option 1

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

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

Nov-14				
	3	10	17	24
	4	11	18	25
	5	12	19	26
	6	13	20	27
	7	14	21	28
1	8	15	22	29
2	9	16	23	30

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

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

Feb-15				
	2	9	16	23
	3	10	17	24
	4	11	18	25
	5	12	19	26
	6	13	20	27
	7	14	21	28
1	8	15	22	

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

Apr-15				
	6	13	20	27
	7	14	21	28
1	8	15	22	29
2	9	16	23	30
3	10	17	24	
4	11	18	25	
5	12	19	26	

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

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

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

August/September 2015					
	3	10	17	24	31
	4	11	18	25	1
	5	12	19	26	2
	6	13	20	27	
	7	14	21	28	
1	8	15	22	29	
2	9	16	23	30	

Term	Day	From	Day		No. Days
1	Mon	01 September 2014	Fri	24 October 2014	40
2	Mon	03 November 2014	Fri	19 December 2014	35
3	Mon	05 January 2015	Fri	13 February 2015	30
4	Mon	23 February 2015	Thurs	02 April 2015	29
5	Mon	20 April 2015	Fri	22 May 2015	24
6	Mon	01 June 2015	Tues	21 July 2015	37
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Proposed Term Dates 2014/2015 School Year
Option 2

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

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

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

	Jun-15						Jul-15						August/September 2015					
Monday		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27			3	10	17	24	31
Tuesday		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28			4	11	18	25	1
Wednesday		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29			5	12	19	26	2
Thursday		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30			6	13	20	27	
Friday		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31			7	14	21	28	
Saturday		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25			1	8	15	22	29	
Sunday		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26			2	9	16	23	30	

Term	Day	From	Day		No. Days
1	Mon	01 September 2014	Fri	24 October 2014	40
2	Mon	03 November 2014	Fri	19 December 2014	35
3	Mon	05 January 2015	Fri	13 February 2015	30
4	Mon	23 February 2015	Fri	27 March 2015	25
5	Mon	13 April 2015	Fri	22 May 2015	29
6	Mon	01 June 2015	Mon	20 July 2015	36
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Proposed Term Dates 2014/2015 School Year
Option 3

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

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

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

	Jun-15					Jul-15					August/September 2015						
Monday		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31
Tuesday		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	1
Wednesday		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26	2
Thursday		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27	
Friday		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28	
Saturday		6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29			
Sunday		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30			

Term	Day	From	Day		No. Days
1	Mon	01 September 2014	Weds	22 October 2014	38
2	Mon	03 November 2014	Fri	19 December 2014	35
3	Mon	05 January 2015	Fri	13 February 2015	30
4	Mon	23 February 2015	Fri	27 March 2015	25
5	Mon	13 April 2015	Fri	22 May 2015	29
6	Mon	01 June 2015	Weds	22 July 2015	38
					195

Appendix 2

Comments in favour of Option 1 (11):

Schools		
NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Avon Valley College		1
Chilton Foliat Primary		1
Holbrook Primary	Option 1 = 11 votes, Option 2 = 0 votes, Option 3 = 4 votes	1
Ogbourne St George and St Andrew Primary		1
Preshute Primary	The Full Governing Body of Preshute VC Primary school would prefer OPTION 1 (5 day October break and finishing on 21 July)	1
Sherston Primary		1
St Mary's RC Primary		1
Urchfont Primary		1

Academies		
NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
South Wilts Grammar for Girls	After consulting Hampshire's proposed dates Option 1 is more in line, notably Easter	1
Pewsey Vale	Our preference is for Option 1, but we would like to keep the extra 2 days in October Half term and break up later for the summer holiday – not sure this is possible!	1

Parents/other		
NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Julie Sobers	I would prefer Option 1.	1

Comments in favour of Option 2 (26):

Schools		
NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Bradford on Avon Christ Church		2
Bradon Forest	Agreed at full governors Monday 04.02.2013	2
Christian Malford Primary		2
Coombe Bissett Primary		2
Hilmarton Primary		2
Ivy Lane		2
Keevil Aided Primary		2
Oare Primary		2
Pewsey Primary	As we have many staff whom have children that go to school in neighbouring authorities – we prefer option 2.	2
Pitton Primary		2
Princeroft Primary		2
Queen's Crescent		2
St John's Primary, Tisbury	This is closest to Dorset term dates. We follow Dorset dates as we feed into Dorset Secondary Schools	2
St Paul's Primary		2
St Sampson's Infants	This was the option preferred by more staff within our setting	2
The Stonehenge School	What happened to the principle of 6 terms of equal length??	2
Westwood-with-Iford		2
Whiteparish All Saints Primary		2

Academies		
NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Bishop Wordsworth's School		2
Sheldon	For secondary schools where many key staff need to come in for examination results, the ideal summer break is six full weeks (Mon-Fri). Thus, eroding as much of the eating into w/b 21/7/15 is preferable, achieved by having just two weeks at Easter. The extra two days at October would also be nice, but you can't have it all and on balance, our preference is to have a good long summer break.	2
St Augustine's		2
St Laurence		2
Saint Edmund's R C Primary		2

Parents/other		
NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Mrs L Jarman	I favour option 2 as I also have a child in the private sector and family living in neighbouring counties with children of school age. The earlier finish in July appeals.	2
Colin Osborn, Group Scout Leader 1st Lavington Sea Scout Group.	My ideal choice would be Option 2 the worst choice would be option 3. I am organising activities and camps for scouts. Having the Easter bank holiday in the middle of the school holiday means that more scouts are unable to take part in activities because of holidays with parents. Ideally the summer holiday would start on a Monday so our Saturday to Saturday summer camp starts on the first day of the holidays giving more freedom to parents to book holidays without their children missing the opportunity to attend an outdoor adventure/learning experience. Ending the school term on a Monday isn't a major problem as most schools will have a TD day on the Monday. Ending later in the week means that pupils are expected to be in school during that last part week.	2
Christine Stoodley	Of the 3 options my preferred option is 2	2

Comments in favour of Option 3 (67):

Schools		
NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Abbeyfield School		3
Alderbury & West Grimstead Primary		3
All Saint's Netheravon		3
Amesbury Archer Primary		3
Ashton Keynes Primary		3
Bitham Brook Primary	Majority of staff fed back their preference for option 3	3
Box Primary	Staff preferred the longer break in October and thought that a final week of the year that was several days rather than one was better	3
Broad Hinton Primary		3
Bulford St Leonard's Primary		3
Castle Primary, Ludgershall		3
Chapmanslade Primary		3
Christ the King Primary, Amesbury		3
Crockerton Primary		3
Dauntsey'sd Aided Primary		3
Derry Hill Primary		3
Dinton Primary		3
Downton Primary	Please note the preferred option for Downton Primary School is Option 3	3
Forest & Sandridge	What happened to the 6 week terms regardless of where Easter falls? 6 week terms would be far preferable	3
Frogwell Primary	This represents the wishes of the majority of staff in the school	3
Great Bedwyn		3
Greentrees		3

Appendix C

Heddington Primary	After an 8 week term, staff and governors feel a slightly longer holiday is needed in Autumn	3
King's Park Primary, Melksham		3
Longford Primary		3
Lydiard Millicent Primary	There were also lots of votes for option 2. NONE for option 1.	3
Matravers School		3
Minety Primary		3
Newtown Primary		3
King's Lodge Primary		3
Ramsbury Primary		3
Rushall School		3
Sarum St Paul's		3
Somerfords Walter Powell Primary		3
St Bartholomew's		3
St Dunstan Primary		3
St Katharine's Primary		3
St Nicholas Primary, Porton	Shorter Term 1 preferred	3
St Osmund's Catholic Primary		3
St Patricks, Corsham		3
St Thomas a Becket CE Primary		3
Studley Green Primary	Please avoid Option 1 at all costs due to it's lack of correlation with neighbouring county of Dorset	3
Sutton Benger		3
Sutton Veny		3
The Minster Primary		3
The Trafalgar at Downton	The majority of staff that replied preferred Option 3	3
Walwayne Court		3
West Ashton Primary		3
Westbury Infants		3
Westbury Leigh Primary		3
Wootton Bassett Infants		3
Wyvern College		3

Academies		
NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Corsham Primary		3
Malmesbury School		3
Devizes School		3
The Mead		3
Rowde Primary Academy	The Staff and Governors at Rowde Primary Academy have opted for <u>Option 3.</u>	3
St John's Marlborough		3
Woodford Valley		3
Easton Royal Academy	We prefer Easter to be in line with other Authorities plus longer in half term October as our infants struggle with the long Autumn without a break	3

Parents/other		
NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Tina Winfield	With reference to the above consultation, my preferred option would be option 3. In my opinion, the summer holidays are long enough already for the children.	3
Caroline Wylie	Option 3 would be my preferred choice, as only having to find child care for 5 weeks in the summer instead of 6 would be a real help.	3
Kati Goodwin	I would like to register my views on the 2014/2015 school holidays. My preference would be for option 3 as I would prefer the 7 day break in October and an Easter start date of 20 Mar	3
Leah Redding	I would like to register my opinion as a parent, that I prefer option 3. My reasons are as follows: 1. The summer holidays are too long; children forget what they have been learning at school and get out of the routine, and they are a nightmare for working parents. 2. The Winter term is very long and busy in the run up to Christmas, so a couple of extra days off in October give the children a longer rest.	3
Amanda Croucher	Having reviewed the options presented on your website I feel that, on balance, I would prefer term dates to follow option 3 as it allows a longer break for the children in the Autumn term which is always a busy and tiring term rather than adding the days to the summer holiday which is already a sufficiently long break.	3
Jenny Warren	Option 3 is my preferred option. This is because it is a long few weeks in the run up to Christmas when a lot of the children get tired so I think a longer holiday beforehand may help.	3
Stephen and Alice Bull	We have two children in primary school: reception and year 3. We like having extra days on the October holiday, as this gives an extra break after what is always a long term at the beginning of the academic year. That means we prefer option 3.	3
Caroline Fone	I am writing in relation to the above consultation regarding school term and holiday dates. I would advise that my preference is Option 3, on the basis of a 7 day half term in October and I also like the fact that the two week Easter break is arranged with the Easter weekend/ bank holidays in the middle of it.	3

Miscellaneous comments:

NAME	COMMENT
Pippa Fisk	My main comment is that to have only 1 week off in October between terms 2 and 3 leaves an 8 week term 1 followed by a 7 week term 2. Having three children of school age, eight weeks without a break is a very long time to keep them focused and motivated. One week isn't enough to recharge their batteries before the next seven week term begins.
Miles Dennis	Having reviewed the options, I think Options 1 and 2 are equally preferable to Option 3 as they gives more holiday time when the weather should be better and there is more daylight.
Wardour Primary	We follow Dorset County Council dates.
Southbroom Infants	Preferred option is to match other schools in the area making it easier for parents with children at more than one school.