

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NO.

JCC

28 March 2014

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2015/16**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this item is:
 - i) to report the findings of the consultation regarding proposed school term and holiday dates for 2015/16.
 - 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 2015/16.

School Term & Holiday Dates – 2015/16

2. In line with the recommendation of the JCC at its meeting in November 2013 a variety of interested parties including schools, neighbouring authorities, diocese plus others have been consulted on proposed term dates for 2015/16 (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 2015/16. 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 2015/16 and decide whether to confirm its support for the dates detailed in Option 4.

CAROLYN GODFREY

DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Proposed Term Dates 2015/2016 School Year
Option 1

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

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

	Mar-16					Apr-16					May-16					
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	
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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-16					Jul-16					August/September 2016					
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	
Sunday	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28	

Term	Day	From	Day	To	No. Days
1	Tues	01 September 2015	Wed	21 October 2015	37
2	Mon	02 November 2015	Fri	18 December 2015	35
3	Mon	04 January 2016	Fri	12 February 2016	30
4	Mon	22 February 2016	Fri	01 April 2016	28
5	Mon	18 April 2016	Fri	27 May 2016	29
6	Mon	06 June 2016	Mon	25 July 2016	36
					195

Proposed Term Dates 2015/2016 School Year
Option 2



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

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Wednesday	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	
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Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31
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Friday	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2
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5	Mon	18 April 2016	Fri	27 May 2016	29
6	Mon	06 June 2016	Thurs	21 July 2016	34
					195

Proposed Term Dates 2015/2016 School Year
Option 3

	Sep-15					Oct-15					Nov-15				
Monday	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Tuesday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
Wednesday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
Thursday	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	
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Wednesday	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	
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Proposed Term Dates 2015/2016 School Year
Option 4

	Sep-15					Oct-15					Nov-15				
Monday	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Tuesday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
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Option 1**Schools**

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Alderbury & West Grimstead Primary		1
All Saints Primary, Netheravon		1
Bellefield Primary and Nursery	Length of term seems more equal and protocol applied	1
Bemerton St John Primary		1
Lydiard Millicent Primary		1
Noremarsh Junior		1
Redland Community Primary		1
Rowdeford		1
Rushall		1
St Barnabas, Market Lavington		1
St Edmund's Girls', Salisbury		1
St George's Catholic Primary, Warminster		1
St Thomas a Becket		1
Sutton Veny	Ideally, the academic year would be divided equally into 6, 6 week terms	1
The Stonehenge School		1
Westbury Leigh Primary	Options were placed on staff room noticeboard. Vast majority of staff preferred option 1.	1
Wilton and Barford Primary		1
Wootton Bassett Infants		1

Academies

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Corsham Regis Primary		1
The John Bentley		1

TOTAL IN FAVOUR OF OPTION 1

20**Option 2****Schools**

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Abbeyfield		2
Bradford on Avon Christ Church		2
Colerne Primary		2
Collingbourne Primary		2
Five Lanes Primary		2
Kington St Michael Primary	Governor Decision	2
Larkhill Primary		2
Longleaze Primary		2
Ogbourne St George & St Andrew Primary		2
St Patrick's Catholic Primary		2
Winsley Primary		2
Winterslow Primary		2

TOTAL IN FAVOUR OF OPTION 2

12**Option 3****Schools**

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Baydon St Nicholas		3
Broad Hinton Primary		3
Durrington All Saints Infant		3
Durrington All Saints Infant	The governing body have agreed with the headteacher and staff with option 3 as the most suitable for this school	3
Hullavington		3
Lacock Primary		3

Longford Primary		3
Newtown Primary		3
Oare Primary		3
St Bartholomew's Primary		3
St Mary's R.C. Primary, Chippenham		3
St Peter's Primary		3
Stanton St Quintin Primary		3
Wylde Valley		3
Wyndham Park Infants'		3

Academies

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Bishop Wordsworth's Grammar for Boys		3

TOTAL IN FAVOUR OF OPTION 3

16

Option 4

Schools

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Ashton Keynes Primary		4
Avon Valley College		4
Bishops Cannings Primary		4
Bitham Brook Primary		4
Broad Chalke Primary	The staff prefer option 4 because they feel that 1. a 7 day break in October is beneficial to both pupils and staff in what is a long term. (This ruled out options 2 and 3). 2. It is better to finish the school year on a Friday rather than come back for a Monday (This ruled out option1)	4
Cherhill Primary		4
Chilton Foliat Primary	After consultation with the Teaching and Support Staff the preferred option for Chilton Foliat primary school is option 4. This is supported by the governing body and was minuted as such during the FGB meeting held on 28th January 2014.	4
Christ The King Catholic, Amesbury		4
Clarendon Junior, Tidworth		4
Derry Hill		4
Dinton Primary		4
Durrington Junior		4
Figheledean St Michael's Primary		4
Greentrees Primary		4
Kennet Valley Primary	Option 4 we feel gives consistency throughout the academic year	4
King's Lodge Community		4
Langley Fitzurse Primary	It would be practical to consult secondary schools about their proposed holiday dates, so that there might be a more joined up calendar.	4
Lea and Garsdon Primary	We like the longer Autumn half term and Easter hols being in the Spring main holiday as this is less disruptive to learning	4
Lydiard Millicent Primary	Governor's preferred option	4
Melksham Oak		4
Queen's Crescent		4
Springfields Academy		4
St Joseph's Catholic Primary, Malmesbury		4
St Joseph's Catholic, Salisbury	As a faith school, the importance of an Easter celebration is very significant. Having a break between Easter and the holidays will have large attendance implications.	4
St Nicholas Primary, Bromham		4
The New Forest Primary	The governing body of the New Forest C of E (VA) Primary school have been consulted with regard to the Term dates for 2015/16 and have responded in favour of Option 4.	4
The Trafalgar at Downton		4
West Ashton Primary	The governors voted to put forward option 4 as their preferred term time option	4
Westbury Infants	Preference is for Option 4 as gives long October break and Easter holiday at Easter.	4
Whiteparish All Saints Primary	Option 1 and 2 are very disruptive having the Easter weekend and then returning to school for a part week before the 2 week break. Not good use of curriculum time.	4

Zouch Primary		4
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Academies

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Hardenhuish	Unhappy that ATL model seems to override common sense, particularly in regard in 2015/16 to the Christmas and New Year break.	4
Holy Trinity, Calne	We're an academy but generally go with the Wiltshire dates	4
Malmesbury		4
Rowde Primary		4
Sheldon	Good to have the longer October holiday in the middle of a big long term. Including Easter in a holiday <u>has</u> to happen in my opinion - will be very disruptive for Children's education, especially with public exams not far away. Would like to flag up 2016/17 and real need for six-week summer holiday, so would ask for start date of 05 September to be considered.	4
St Augustine's Catholic		4
St Laurence	But: Working 22/23 Oct holiday 26 Oct - 3 Nov (Extra 2 days after the main week rather than before)	4
The Manor Primary	The majority of staff opted for Option 4	4
The Mead Community Primary		4
Woodford Valley		4

Parents/other

NAME	COMMENT	OPTION
Deborah Bartlett - Bartlett PR	I would like to vote for option 4	4
Nicky Brennan - UCAS	As a parent of two secondary children and someone who has become very used to an extended October half terms and the Easter holidays always being at Easter then my vote is for option 4	4
Chris Jones - ICMR school of Biological Sciences, University of Reading	The longer half term holiday and in the Autumn is needed by the children and joining the Easter holiday to the long Easter weekend is helpful to working parents and less disruptive for the children.	4

TOTAL IN FAVOUR OF OPTION 4

44

Miscellaneous comments:

NAME	COMMENT
Semley Primary	Dorset Dates
Mere	Dorset Dates
Hilperton Primary	Either 3 or 4
David Price, Associate - SLR Consulting Ltd	Option 3 or option 4 would seem logical, as breaking Easter away from the school holidays will cause a lot of confusion with parents and holiday providers
Lady Ruth Picknett-Powell	Having looked at the 4 proposals, I feel that 1 and 4 are the best of the 4 options as they reduce the length of the first half of the autumn term (term 1). Which in my opinion is often too long especially for younger children and can lead to reduced learning due to mental fatigue and exhaustion. They are also the better of the options for evening out the days in each term, which I was led to believe was the reasoning behind making the year six terms rather than three and does not seem to have happened. Would it not be more appropriate to have a maximum six week term followed by a minimum of a week holiday to allow the children to recuperate. Also is there any chance of the summer holiday length being shortened? I am not aware of any children being sent out to the fields to help with the harvest anymore and a four week holiday would be much