

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Education and Skills
<b>Date:</b>	24 February 2021
<b>Title:</b>	School term and holiday dates for 2022/23
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

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### Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Executive Member for Education and Skills on the need to decide the pattern of school term and holiday dates for school year 2022/23, to note the outcomes of the consultation process that has been followed; and to make decisions on the above.

### Recommendation(s)

2. It is recommended that the Executive Member for Education and Skills approves the school term and holiday dates that are supported by representative members of Hampshire County Council's (HCC) Conditions of Service Working Party (CoSWoP) and are set out in Appendix 2 of the report, for the school year 2022/23.

### Executive Summary

3. The purpose of this report is to inform the Executive Member for Education and Skills on the need to decide the pattern of school term and holiday dates for school year 2022/23 and to note the outcomes of the consultation process that has been followed.

### Contextual Information

4. It is the responsibility of a local authority to schedule a school year which provides the statutory 190 pupil days and 195 teacher days in voluntary controlled and community schools. The structure for delivering this entitlement has been the subject of national and local debate in recent years

5. The Local Government Association (LGA) National Standing Committee on the School Year has, in the past, been active in seeking to establish a National School Year but this process has now ended.
6. Hampshire teachers' professional associations, represented by the Conditions of Service Working Party (CoSWoP), have worked closely with officers of the local authority over several years in order to secure an agreed approach to setting dates for the county's schools.
7. Children benefit from good attendance in school; in particular it supports educational achievement and lays the foundation for a positive contribution to society and economic well-being. Properly structured periods of learning and rest help children to remain healthy, enjoy their school time and achieve more. The publication of dates well in advance enables families to plan holidays and arrange childcare so that school attendance need not be compromised.

### **Consultation and Equalities**

8. **Schools were invited to comment on their preferred pattern of dates via a Schools' Communication dated 23 November 2020, comments being required by 15 January 2021. The comments are provided below in Appendix 1. The concerns raised were from a very small number of schools. These were considered, but on balance the proposed term dates were not adjusted as it was considered they provided the best balance overall.**

### **Conclusions**

9. The proposed pattern, in Appendix 2, is recommended to the Executive Member for Education and Skills as accepted by the schools that the year group applies to and best meets the requirements that are applied to designing the school year for 2022/23.

## **Appendix 1:**

### **School A**

Two weeks at Christmas is nice but there would be a preference to start the Christmas holiday later so that a later return date after Christmas provides families and staff with the opportunity to go away on holiday for the New Year. For those who would like to travel on 27th, a full week away isn't possible with the proposed dates.

The preference would be for the Christmas holiday to be from Wednesday 21st to Wed 4th Jan inclusive. This would then provide staff and families in school with a full week to go on holiday after Christmas and Boxing Day and secure return flights, rather than rushing to return on the 2nd after only 6 days away.

### **School B**

We have the following comments on the school year 2022/2023:

- We believe the start is too early in September
- We believe that the two days is likely to create increased absences (parents taking holidays to ensure cheaper flights etc)
- We believe that the two days force schools to have two inset days or none, limiting choices, as having one would result in even further non-attendance on the Friday
- We believe that the Christmas break is too early, and would alternatively suggest a break up mid-week prior to Christmas day, so that longer can be spent as families after Christmas - parents report that more time in the run up can be challenging, whereas children want time after Christmas to enjoy their presents before the return

### **School C**

Our governors are happy with the proposed dates

### **School D**

Further to the School Communication reference SC018357, please see below comments:

- Propose starting the autumn term on Monday 5 September 2022 (rather than Thursday 1 September 2022).
- Propose finishing the autumn term on either Tuesday 20 or Thursday 22 December 2022.

### **School E**

The feedback is simply that the start date for the Autumn term 2021/2022 at the bottom of the date is stated incorrectly as 1 september 2021, whereas the info published online states that 1st September is the last day of the school holidays.

Appendix 2:

SEPTEMBER 2022							OCTOBER 2022							NOVEMBER 2022							
M		5	12	19	26		M		3	10	17	24	31*		M			7	14	21	28
T		6	13	20	27		T		4	11	18	25			T		1	8	15	22	29
W		7	14	21	28		W		5	12	19	26			W		2	9	16	23	30
T	1*	8	15	22	29		T		6	13	20	27			T		3	10	17	24	
F	2	9	16	23	30		F		7	14	21#	28			F		4	11	18	25	
S	3	10	17	24			S	1	8	15	22	29			S		5	12	19	26	
S	4	11	18	25			S	2	9	16	23	30			S		6	13	20	27	
DECEMBER 2022							JANUARY 2023							FEBRUARY 2023							
M		5	12	19	26		M		2	9	16	23	30		M			6	13	20*	27
T		6	13	20	27		T		3*	10	17	24	31		T			7	14	21	28
W		7	14	21	28		W		4	11	18	25			W		1	8	15	22	
T	1	8	15	22	29		T		5	12	19	26			T		2	9	16	23	
F	2	9	16#	23	30		F		6	13	20	27			F		3	10#	17	24	
S	3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28			S		4	11	18	25	
S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22	29			S		5	12	19	26	
MARCH 2023							APRIL 2023							MAY 2023							
M		6	13	20	27		M		3	10	17*	24			M		1	8	15	22	29
T		7	14	21	28		T		4	11	18	25			T		2	9	16	23	30
W	1	8	15	22	29		W		5	12	19	26			W		3	10	17	24	31
T	2	9	16	23	30		T		6	13	20	27			T		4	11	18	25	
F	3	10	17	24	31#		F		7	14	21	28			F		5	12	19	26#	
S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22	29			S		6	13	20	27	
S	5	12	19	26			S	2	9	16	23	30			S		7	14	21	28	
JUNE 2023							JULY 2023							AUGUST 2023							
M		5*	12	19	26		M		3	10	17	24	31		M			7	14	21	28
T		6	13	20	27		T		4	11	18	25			T		1	8	15	22	29
W		7	14	21	28		W		5	12	19	26			W		2	9	16	23	30
T	1	8	15	22	29		T		6	13	20	27			T		3	10	17	24	31
F	2	9	16	23	30		F		7	14	21#	28			F		4	11	18	25	
S	3	10	17	24			S	1	8	15	22	29			S		5	12	19	26	
S	4	11	18	25			S	2	9	16	23	30			S		6	13	20	27	

**Bank and Public Holidays 2021/2022**

Christmas Day	25 December 2022	Easter Monday	10 April 2023
Boxing Day	26 December 2022	May Day Holiday	1 May 2023
New Year's Day Holiday	1 January 2023	Spring Bank Holiday	29 May 2023
Good Friday	7 April 2023	Summer Bank Holiday	28 August 2023

\* First day after break



School Holidays



Bank Holidays and National Holidays

# Last day before break

**Autumn Term 2022** starts on Thursday 1 September 2022 and ends on Friday 16 December 2022

(Half term from Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October 2022)

**Spring Term 2023** starts on Tuesday 3 January 2023 and ends on Friday 31 March 2023

(Half term from Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February 2023)

**Summer Term 2023** starts on Monday 17 April 2023 and ends on Friday 21 July 2023

(Half term from Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June 2023)

Term	Start date	End Date
Autumn 2022	1 September 2022	16 December 2022
	Half term 24 October- 28 October 2022	
Spring 2023	3 January 2023	31 March 2023
	Half term 13 February - 17 February 2023	
Summer 2023	17 April 2023	21 July 2023
	Half term 29 May – 2 June 2023	

**Please note that the dates as published are correct.**

**It has now been agreed and confirmed that 1 September 2021 is the start date for the Autumn Term 2021/22.**

**Please also note that the first day of the Autumn Term in September 2023 will not be determined until the 2023/24 timetable has been consulted upon and approved in January 2022.**

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

This proposal does not link to the Strategic Plan but, nevertheless, requires a decision because it is a requirement that the local authority sets the school year for all community and voluntary controlled schools.

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

The school year will apply to all voluntary controlled and community schools. It will form the basis for the school year in Hampshire academies, foundation and voluntary aided schools (which are able to set their own school year). Also it is utilised by sixth form providers. The setting of the school year has a neutral impact for all the protected characteristic groups and other policy consideration groups.