

Title of Report:	Term and Holiday Dates 2020/21
Report to be considered by:	Ian Pearson, Head of Education Services & EMAB
Date of Report:	25/02/2020

Purpose of Report:	To agree the proposed term and holiday dates 2021/22 following consultation
Recommended Action:	To approve the proposed term and holiday dates for 2021/22

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Report

1. Introduction

After discussion with our neighbouring authorities a draft calendar of term and holiday dates for 2021/22 was prepared and considered by Ian Pearson with comments requested from EMAB. As we have aligned dates with our neighbouring authorities it is not expected that there will be any cross border difficulties.

2. Consultation

The consultation ran from 6 January 2020 to 24 February 2020. The consultation was published on the West Berkshire Council consultation finder section of the website making it publicly available for responses. The consultation was also emailed to the following stakeholders:

- All Headteachers (including academies)
- Newbury College
- Portsmouth Catholic Diocese
- Unison
- Parish Councils

West Berkshire provides the term and holiday dates framework for maintained schools.

The framework covers 191 days, which is comprised of 190 “pupil days” and one common training day in September. Schools must set four training days from outside of the “pupil days”.

The Council recommends that schools consider aligning term dates with other schools in the area, for example, secondary schools with primary schools, in recognition of families with children at different schools.

3. Responses

22 responses were received in total: Agree = 16 Disagree = 6

13 respondents submitted comments for consideration.

- I would prefer Term 5 start Tuesday 26th April, to allow an INSET day at the beginning of a large term and that it finishes on Friday 27th May (to make up for the additional day from moving the INSET day).
- The first week in Term 1 will be very short...could be an issue for settling new intakes. Could we start the pupil term on Weds 1st and schools then have the option of an INSET in Aug 31st? Secondly, INSETs are usually more productive at the start of terms. Could Term 4 run from Tues to Friday for pupils so the INSET would be on Mon 28th Feb? Otherwise looks good.
- No significant issues - obviously they fit around the main holiday periods (xmas, easter, etc). I like the fact that inset days are around weekends - this make childcare easier.
- I feel that the 6 terms should be more evenly spread out. Only having 23 days in the 5th term is too short. 34 days for the 6th term is far too long when the children are so tired by that time of year.
- The inset days have been spread out across the academic year which seems quite fair.
- The alignment of term dates between primary and secondary schools should not be the primary driver for school dates
- Going back on Sep 2nd seems very early, surely it would be better to start the new term on the Monday
- Makes sense!
- No thank you
- There are a lot of issues with driving similar holiday dates across the education systems that should be considered over and above the alignment between primary and secondary. This includes demand management on traffic resources, climate change and also the steep pricing differentials between school time and non school time. Of course you are not going to change the term dates now, but you could start rethinking the overall approach.
- None
- I wish that the summer holidays were a bit shorter (4/5 weeks) and the extra time added to the October and February half term. People can then actually go away further afield for those holidays and parents haven't got such a long block in the summer for childcare - and plus it spreads the expense!! Maybe you could consult for that instead!
- February half term is exceptionally late. Prefer the week commencing 14th February in 2022

The data is available at Appendix B to this report.

4. Neighbouring Local Authorities

Proposed term dates were received from Hampshire, Reading, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire Local Authorities.

A comparison table is available in Appendix C. Our neighbouring authorities all set 195 school days which includes the training days which is why there are some variances but all other term dates are broadly in line (given that the number of days set varies by LA).

5. Consideration of Comments

The comments were considered by Ian Pearson on 25 February 2020.

6. Recommendation

As a result of the consultation and discussion with EMAB, it is recommended that:

- The calendar of dates (as at Appendix A) is approved.

APPENDIX A – Proposed Term Dates for 2021/22

September 2021							October 2021							November 2021							December 2021						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	31	1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		
January 2022							February 2022							March 2022							April 2022						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28							28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	
31																											
May 2022							June 2022							July 2022							<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; gap: 10px;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> Public Holiday</div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> School Holiday</div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> Fixed INSET day</div> </div>						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su							
						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10							
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17							
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24							
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31							
30	31																										

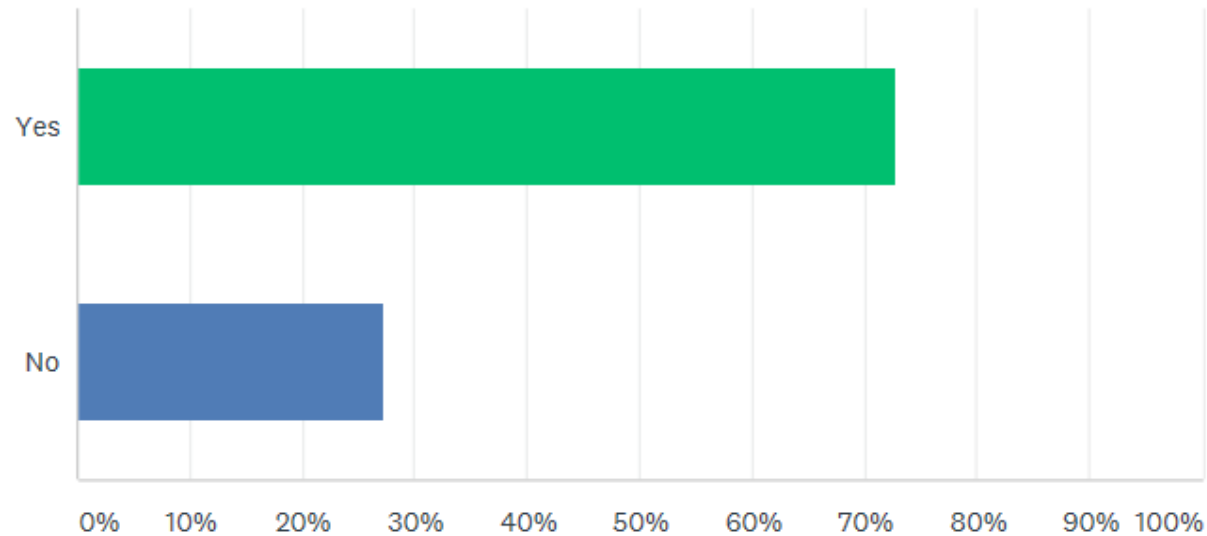
APPENDIX B – CONSULTATION RESPONSES DATA

Q1



Do you agree with the proposed term dates for 2021/22?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	72.73%	16
No	27.27%	6
TOTAL		22

APPENDIX C – COMPARISON

	West Berkshire	Hampshire	Reading	Oxfordshire	Wiltshire
Term 1	02/09/21 – 21/10/21 36 days	02/09/21 – 22/10/21 37 days	02/09/21 – 22/10/21 37 days	02/09/21 - 22/10/21 37 days	02/09/21 - 22/10/21 37 days
Term 2	01/11/21 – 17/12/21 35 days	01/11/21 – 17/12/21 35 days	01/11/21 – 17/12/21 35 days	01/11/21 – 17/12/21 35 days	01/11/21 – 17/12/21 35 days
Term 3	05/01/22 – 18/02/22 33 days	04/01/22 – 18/02/22 34 days	04/01/22 – 18/02/22 34 days	04/01/22 – 18/02/22 34 days	04/01/22 – 18/02/22 34 days
Term 4	28/02/22 – 07/04/22 29 days	28/02/22 – 08/04/22 30 days	28/02/22 – 08/04/22 30 days	28/02/22 – 08/04/22 30 days	28/02/22 – 08/04/22 29 days
Term 5	25/04/22 – 26/05/22 23 days	25/04/22 – 27/05/22 24 days	25/04/22 – 27/05/22 24 days	25/04/22 – 27/05/22 24 days	25/04/22 – 27/05/22 29 days
Term 6	06/06/22 – 21/07/22 34 days	06/06/22 – 21/07/22 34 days	06/06/22 – 21/07/22 34 days	06/06/22 – 21/07/22 34 days	06/06/21 – 21/07/22 34 days
Total	190 days	194 days	194 days	194 days	194 days

West Berkshire dates:190 “pupil days” set, plus 1 September as a training day. Schools to select 4 further training days from outside of these dates. This brings the total to the required 195 days. Suggested training days are 22 Oct, 4 Jan, 8 April and 27 May.

Hampshire dates:194 school days set, plus 1 September as a training day. This brings the total to the required 195 days.

Reading dates:194 school days set, plus 1 September as a training day. This brings the total to the required 195 days.

Oxfordshire dates:194 school days set, plus 1 Sept as training day. This brings the total to the required 195 days.

Wiltshire dates:195 school days set. This is 190 “pupil days” plus 5 training dates. This brings the total to the required 195 days.