

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**27 JUNE 2019**

**REPORT OF CORPORATE  
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**CABINET DECISION**

**Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Councillor Lisa Evans**

**SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES – 2020/2021 and 2021/2022**

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is, following consultation, to present the proposed calendars of school term and holiday dates for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 academic years.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

To inform all schools and interested parties of the school term and holiday dates for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 academic years.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. It is recommended that the school term and holiday dates 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 shown at **Appendix 1 and Appendix 2** to this report, be agreed.

**DETAIL**

1. School employers are required to set the term dates of their school year. Employers are:
  - the Local Authority in maintained, voluntary controlled and maintained special schools;
  - the Governing Body in foundation and voluntary aided schools;
  - the academies in academy trusts and free schools.
2. In line with statutory requirements and the protocol agreed in 2008, consideration has been given to compile a set of term and holiday dates for schools in the Borough.
3. Officers consulted with colleagues from all neighbouring authorities to endeavour to reach consensus on a proposed model for the academic year.
4. Attached as **Appendix 1 and Appendix 2** are the proposed dates for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
5. As part of the consultation process these documents were duly circulated to schools/academies and all other relevant parties, including Diocesan Authorities and Trade Unions/Teaching Associations.
6. Only two comments were received from academies:

- Rosebrook Primary, Ad Astra Academy Trust – “Dates look ultimately sensible”.
- Ian Ramsey Academy, Day Spring Trust – suggested that for 2021/2022 the February Half Term be brought forward to week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022, the Easter holidays be brought forward to week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and the academic year would end on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022.

7. To date, with the exception of North Yorkshire, the neighbouring authorities have either recommended or approved the same dates as Stockton’s proposal for 2020/2021. North Yorkshire has agreed that the 2020/2021 academic year would begin on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and end on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021. For 2021/2022 neighbouring authorities are proposing to use Stockton’s recommended term dates.

### **COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS**

8. The report has been subject to an Impact Assessment and has been judged to have a negative impact. This has been judged necessary because the pattern of school holidays around the christian festivals of Christmas and Easter and a long summer break between years is a national pattern that cannot be varied significantly locally or regionally. Exams and national tests together with School Teachers Pay and Conditions dictate the broad framework leaving only changes at the margins determined locally.

### **CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS**

9. As outlined in paragraph 8, the joint agreement of the 2020/21 and 2021/2022 matrices will ensure that, where children, families and carers live in one Borough but the children attend school in another, there is a consistency across the area.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

10. None.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

11. The recommendations comply with the requirements of the Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations 1999 and the Education Act 2002 (Part 3, Chapter 1, Para 32).

### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

12. The School Term and Holiday Dates 2020/21 and 2021/2022 are categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

### **CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS**

13. All schools and academies, Teacher Associations and Trade Unions, Local Authorities in the North of England Consortium and Diocesan Authorities.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

14. None.

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