

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

24 JUNE 2021

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CABINET DECISION

Children and Young People – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Lisa Evans

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES – 2021/2022 (Amendment)

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is, to present an amended calendar of school term and holiday dates for 2021/2022 academic year.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)/DECISION(S)

To inform all schools and interested parties of the school term and holiday dates amended calendar for 2021/2022 academic year.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the school term and holiday dates 2021/2022 shown at **Appendix 1** 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. Further to the school term and holiday dates for 2021/2022 that had been agreed by Cabinet on 27 June 2019, there has been an announcement that the Spring Bank Holiday in 2022 will be moved to Thursday 2 June and an additional Bank Holiday on Friday 3 June will see a four-day weekend to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
3. The Department for Education will be reviewing the necessary legislation and, as far as the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document is concerned, an amendment will be made for September 2021 version that reduces the number of days that teachers need to be available to work from 190 (+ 5 Professional Development Days) to 189 (+ 5 Professional Development Days). The total school year will therefore be 194 days.
4. In order to incorporate the reduction of working days it is proposed that schools still return on 1st September 2021 as planned. It is therefore suggested, that due to timescales, schools be allowed to set their own additional holiday as long as this is within the 2021/2022 academic year.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

5. The report impacts on the key policy platform area of Children and Young People and Safer Communities. This report has been subject to an Equality 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. Remedial actions have been identified and included in the EIA action plan.

CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

6. 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

7. None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8. 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

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

WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

11. None

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