HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker	Executive Member for Education and Skills, Human Resources and Performance
Date:	27 March 2019
Title:	School term and holiday dates for 2020/21
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Martin Goff (Head of Information, Transport and Admissions)

Tel: 01962 846185 Email: martin.goff@hants.gov.uk

Recommendation(s)

 It is recommended that the Executive Member for Education and Skills, Human Resources and Performance 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 1 of the report, for the school year 2020/21

Executive Summary

- 2. The purpose of this report is to inform the Executive Member for Education and Skills, Human Resources and Performance on the need to decide the pattern of school term and holiday dates for school year 2020/21 and to note the outcomes of the consultation process that has been followed.
- 2.1 For the school year 2020/21 Hampshire County Council (HCC) and representatives from CoSWoP devised a pattern of school term and holiday dates. It included all the features that are an aim of the consultation in Hampshire.
- 2.2 The proposed pattern of holiday and term dates is shown in Appendix 1. Key features of the proposed pattern are half term lengths that are consistent with the usual school year pattern taking account of Christmas, Easter and summer GCSE and A Level examinations timetable.

Contextual information

3. 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.

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 Establishing more balanced term lengths with regular breaks supports an aim of the corporate strategy, to maximising wellbeing, by helping schools and families to plan learning more effectively. Another aim, Hampshire, safer and more secure for all, is supported by achieving agreement on dates across the county, so that schools and their communities can work effectively together in school and out of school hours.
- 3.4 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.

Finance

4. No financial implications.

Consultation and Equalities

 Schools were invited to comment on their preferred pattern of dates via a Schools' Communication dated 30 November 2018, comments being required by 25 January 2019. Only one supportive comment was received and no negative ones.

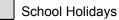
Conclusions

6. The proposed pattern, in Appendix 1, is recommended to the Executive Member for Education and Skills, Human Resources and Performance as accepted by those schools and best meeting the requirements that are applied to designing the school year for 2020/21.

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Boxing Day New Year's Day Holiday Good Friday 25 December 2020 26 December 2020 1 January 2021 2 April 2021 Easter Monday May Day Holiday Spring Bank Holiday Summer Bank Holiday 5 April 2021 3 May 2021 31 May 2021 30 August 2021

* First day after break# Last day before break



Bank Holidays and National Holidays

Autumn Term 2020 starts on Thursday 3 September 2020 and ends on Friday 18 December 2019 (Half term from Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October 2020)

Spring Term 2021 starts on Monday 4 January 2021 and ends on Thursday 1 April 2021 (Half term from Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February 2021)

Summer Term 2021 starts on Monday 19 April 2021 and ends on Friday 23 July 2021 (Half term from Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June 2021)

Term	Start date	End Date				
Autumn 2020	3 September 2020	18 December 2020				
Autumn 2020	Half term 26 October- 30 October 2020					
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Spring 2021	4 January 2021	1 April 2021				
Spring 2021	Half term 15 - 19 February 2021					
Summer 2021	19 April 2021	23 July 2021				
Summer 2021	Half term 31 May – 4 June 2021					

Please note that the dates as published are correct.

It has now been agreed and confirmed that 3 September 2020 is the start date for the Autumn Term 2020/21

CORPORATE OR 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 duty of the Council, under section 32 of the Education Act 2002, to set the school year for its voluntary controlled and community schools.

Section 100 D - Loca	Government Act	1972 - background	documents
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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.)

<u>Document</u>

Location

None

1. Equality Duty

- 1.1. 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 under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

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

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

1.2. 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.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. None

3. Climate Change:

None