

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	7 July 2021
Title:	Updated School term and holiday dates for 2021/22
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

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Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on the need to revise the published pattern of school term and holiday dates for school year 2021/22. The Executive Member is asked to note the outcomes of the discussion with schools that has been carried out and to make decisions on the above.

Recommendation(s)

2. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services approves the updated school term and holiday dates set out in Appendix 1 of the report, for the school year 2021/22.

Executive Summary

3. The purpose of this report is to inform the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on the need to revise and re-determine the pattern of school term and holiday dates for school year 2021/22 and to note the outcomes of the discussion with schools that has followed. The requires adjustment to the already published 2021-22 School Year and Holidays pattern was necessary to take account of the additional Bank Holiday in June to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

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 2021/22 school year was originally determined on 26 February 2020 and published shortly after.

- The Government announced that there would be an additional Bank Holiday in June to mark Her Majesty The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. A change in legislation was required to enable a reduction in the usual school year length from 195 days to 194 days. This became effective on 1 June 2021. The published 2021-22 School Year and Holidays pattern required removal of 1 day so that teachers can also benefit from the additional holiday because the additional day of holiday falls within the already allocated Whitsun holiday period.

Consultation and Equalities

- Schools were invited to comment on which date should become the additional holiday day, choosing between either Tuesday 4 May 2022 (to create a 4 day bank holiday weekend at the start of May) or Friday 23 July 2022 (to start the summer holiday one day earlier). The responses are tallied and comments provided in Appendix 1.
- The summary of the results is as follows:

	Extra Day in May	Extra Day in July	Total
Primary Schools Responding	65 (44%)	84 (56%)	149
Secondary Schools Responding	14(47%)	16(53%)	30
Special Schools Responding	1	2	3
Total	79	102	182

As a result of the above responses, and taking account of the majority vote in primary, secondary and special schools, it is proposed that the majority view of 21 July 2021 is the additional holiday day.

Climate Change Impact Assessment

- Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience impacts of its projects and decisions. These

tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

9. The carbon mitigation tool and climate change adaptation tool were not applicable because the decision relates to setting the school year, a statutory administrative exercise.

Conclusions

10. The proposed pattern, in Appendix 2, is recommended to the Executive Member, supported by a majority of schools who responded, as the best option for the revised pattern of term and holiday dates for 2021/22 school year.

Appendix 1:

School 1

Our preference would be to have it in July. Summer 1 is already a short half term and there is a lot to fit in for us with new Year R intake work and SATs in KS1.

School 2

In response to the recent school comms on the additional Bank Holiday impacting school dates. XXXXX would prefer the change to be in July pre the summer Holidays rather than May.

This is chiefly due to the impact it has on disrupting a term during the term, especially for our Year 6's as this is a very busy time in the academic calendar for them.

School 3

In response to school comms about 2021-22 term dates my preferred option of the two would be:

Reduce the number of school days by making Tuesday 3rd May a non-working day; this creates a four day weekend at the start of May.

However, this does mean there would be a 3 day week prior to the SATs week for year 6 pupils therefore could adding a day to the May half term, so taking Monday 6th June as the day instead be considered?

School 4

Our preference would be to finish earlier at the end of the year rather than have a 3-day week just before KS2 SATs..

School 5

We would prefer finishing a day earlier for the summer as the alternative reduces the number of days teaching on the lead up to SATs and is very close to a potential polling day closure.

School 6

On discussion we think staff and most parents would prefer the extra four-day weekend, so we think the extra day should be taken on Tuesday 3rd of May.

School 7

The school's preference would be to finish on Thursday 22nd July and not to have a 4 day weekend in May. This is due to the proximity to KS2 Sats (if they go ahead next year).

School 8

Our preference would be to reduce the number of school days by finishing schools year earlier, on Thursday 21st July; extending the 2022 summer break by one day.

This would mean that the children benefit from a less disrupted spring and summer term for teaching and learning, particularly in the run up to SATS and exams.

School 9

For what it's worth, I would prefer to end the school year a day earlier. Any extra time out of the term in May, just before SATs would not go down well with children!

School 10

Further to the Bank Holiday consultation for the 2021/2022 academic year, our strong preference would be to finish the year a day earlier than planned (i.e. on Thursday 22nd July 2022).

This is because adding another Bank Holiday in May so close to the 2022 SATs Week, would unnecessarily disrupt the related preparations for a cohort whose learning has already been negatively impacted by lockdowns within their Year 4 and 5.

School 11

I would like to go with the longer May Bank Holiday option. I feel this gives the greater capacity for rest and future planning and preparation.

School 12

I have consulted with the staff at XXXX school and our choice would be to extend the 2022 summer break by a day. The reason for this is we usually have to shut as we are used for a polling station at the beginning of May. This would mean that we would be shut Monday, Tuesday and Thursday only opening on Wednesday and Friday. This would greatly impact our attendance.

School 13

Our preference is number 2. This is so SATs teachers have more time to prepare with SATs in mind. Parents will also have a year's notice of the change.

School 14

Our preference is as follows: Reduce the number of school days by finishing schools year earlier, on Thursday 21st July; extending the 2022 summer break by one day.

The reason for this choice: we believe that a further extended break, so soon after the two week Easter holiday (it is late in 2022) would be too disruptive for the children.

School 15

As the May option is just before SATs we would prefer the July option. Many thanks

School 16

Following the Schoolcomms, please could I ask in the strongest terms that the May option is not considered as this would be yet more time out in advance of Year 6 SATs (assuming they will go ahead) It's really not great as there is always limited time and a long weekend may make the children switch off too much! I think this might also be true for GCSEs

School 17

Hi the 2nd option would be of preference-finishing summer the term a day earlier. We feel May is a busy month with SATs etc where you need the time in school with the children.

School 18

My preference is for the additional day on the 6-week holiday due to the proximity of the May suggestion to the assessment period

School 19

Further to the school comms yesterday regarding the proposed additional day of holiday for 2021.22. I would like to register my preference as Thursday 21st July. We are a school that is often used as a polling station with a possible polling day scheduled for Thursday 5th May. If school is closed for the bank holiday on 2nd and 3rd May and we are closed for polling (INSET) on 5th, pupils would only be in school on Wednesday and Friday of that week, which would be very disruptive in the run up to the KS2 SATs scheduled for the following week on Monday 9th May.

School 20

Our preference is as XXXX School's choice below:

2. Reduce the number of school days by finishing schools year earlier, on Thursday 21st July; extending the 2022 summer break by one day.

The reason for this choice is that we also believe that a further extended break, so soon after the Easter holiday would be too disruptive for the children.

School 21

Option 2 would be much preferred. Option 1 falls within the preparation time for KS1 and KS2 SATs, and is a short half term, as it is.

School 22

I would like to express my preference for option 1 change to term dates for 2021-22.

I feel the country being given an extra Bank Holiday on the occasion of her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee has the sense of being 'a gift' to all her subjects. As such I feel option one feels more like a gift than just ending the year 1 day early, when most teachers are going to be tidying and re-organising their classrooms to prepare for their next cohort of children.

School 23

My preference, of the two options, is to shorten the summer term by one day in July.

For Junior, Primary and Secondary schools the May 3rd day impacts on exam preparation. We return from Easter holiday on 25th April so there is not much benefit on a longer weekend straight afterwards. In addition, the Year 6 SATs start on 9th May, by adding 3rd May some parents may add 3 days unauthorised holiday (as it is below the penalty notice threshold) giving the children no time to settle before SATs.

Summer term is always very long and dropping a day will have no real impact on children's learning.

School 24

Further to the school's comm, I would like to confirm my preference as Friday 22nd July as the May date would make an already short half-term even shorter.

School 25

Our preference would be the date in May, however, this does come with the caveat that there would be concerns about the proximity to the GCSEs.

School 26

The preference for the additional day next academic year would be Friday 22nd July and therefore finish the academic year on Thursday 21st July. The early May day would come after only a week after being on the Easter holiday and within, what will be a very short half term.

School 27

With reference to SC018917, having discussed with colleagues we feel finishing on Thursday 21 July would be the best choice as this would reduce the impact of lost teaching time on Year 11 pupils

School 28

Our preference for the adjustment to the 2021-22 school calendar due to the Platinum Jubilee bank holiday is to reduce the number of school days by finishing the school year earlier, on Thursday 21st July, extending the 2022 summer break by one day.

We have selected this option as it avoids the start of the busy summer exam season in May.

School 29

I would opt for finishing earlier in the Summer term. The other option is very close to SATs and I don't feel we should have more time out of school prior to these.

School 30

Further to the schools communication on Monday my Head Teacher has expressed a preference for the shorter summer term, with the last day on 21st July.

He feels that having a longer May Bank holiday so soon after the Easter holiday will mean that children will only be receiving 5 school days in almost a month, which is not a good idea for children approaching SATs.

School 31

I would like to vote for Option 2 for the extra Bank Holiday whereby the day would be given back at the end of term.

The May half term is very short and we have SAT's then, so losing an extra day is not needed.

School 32

My preference for St. John's would be at the end of the school year - 22/7/2022 instead of 3/5/2022 as this would have the least impact on parent's work and also wouldn't take another day away from SATS revision.

School 33

We would like to propose that the additional holiday date be put on Thursday 21st July.

The other choice would have a significant impact on preparing students for their GCSEs in a half term that is already very short.

School 34

XXXXX preference is for the 22nd July to become the extra day as the additional day in May was considered too disruptive for year 11 so close to exams.

School 35

I would like to choose option 2 for the additional holiday as the May dates are very close to KS2 SATs and I would prefer children in school.

Appendix 2:

SEPTEMBER 2021							OCTOBER 2021							NOVEMBER 2021						
M		6	13	20	27		M		4	11	18	25		M		1*	8	15	22	29
T		7	14	21	28		T		5	12	19	26		T		2	9	16	23	30
W	1	8	15	22	29		W		6	13	20	27		W		3	10	17	24	
T	2*	9	16	23	30		T		7	14	21	28		T		4	11	18	25	
F	3	10	17	24			F	1	8	15	22#	29		F		5	12	19	26	
S	4	11	18	25			S	2	9	16	23	30		S		6	13	20	27	
S	5	12	19	26			S	3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28	
DECEMBER 2021							JANUARY 2022							FEBRUARY 2022						
M		6	13	20	27		M		3	10	17	24	31	M			7	14	21	28*
T		7	14	21	28		T		4*	11	18	25		T		1	8	15	22	
W	1	8	15	22	29		W		5	12	19	26		W		2	9	16	23	
T	2	9	16	23	30		T		6	13	20	27		T		3	10	17	24	
F	3	10	17#	24	31		F		7	14	21	28		F		4	11	18#	25	
S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22	29		S		5	12	19	26	
S	5	12	19	26			S	2	9	16	23	30		S		6	13	20	27	
MARCH 2022							APRIL 2022							MAY 2022						
M		7	14	21	28		M		4	11	18	25*		M		2	9	16	23	30
T	1	8	15	22	29		T		5	12	19	26		T		3	10	17	24	31
W	2	9	16	23	30		W		6	13	20	27		W		4	11	18	25	
T	3	10	17	24	31		T		7	14	21	28		T		5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25			F	1	8#	15	22	29		F		6	13	20	27#	
S	5	12	19	26			S	2	9	16	23	30		S		7	14	21	28	
S	6	13	20	27			S	3	10	17	24			S	1	8	15	22	29	
JUNE 2022							JULY 2022							AUGUST 2022						
M		6*	13	20	27		M		4	11	18	25		M		1	8	15	22	29
T		7	14	21	28		T		5	12	19	26		T		2	9	16	23	30
W	1	8	15	22	29		W		6	13	20	27		W		3	10	17	24	31
T	2	9	16	23	30		T		7	14	21#	28		T		4	11	18	25	
F	3	10	17	24			F	1	8	15	22	29		F		5	12	19	26	
S	4	11	18	25			S	2	9	16	23	30		S		6	13	20	27	
S	5	12	19	26			S	3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28	

Bank and Public Holidays 2021/2022

Christmas Day	25 December 2021	Easter Monday	18 April 2022
Boxing Day	26 December 2021	May Day Holiday	2 May 2022
New Year's Day Holiday	1 January 2022	Spring Bank Holiday	2 June 2022 (moved from 30 May)
Good Friday	15 April 2022	Queen's Jubilee Holiday	3 June 2022
		Summer Bank Holiday	29 August 2022

* First day after break



School Holidays



Bank Holidays and National Holidays

Last day before break

Autumn Term 2021 starts on Thursday 2 September 2021 and ends on Friday 17 December 2021

(Half term from Monday 25 October to Friday 29 October 2021)

Spring Term 2022 starts on Tuesday 4 January 2022 and ends on Friday 8 April 2022

(Half term from Monday 21 February to Friday 25 February 2022)

Summer Term 2022 starts on Monday 25 April 2022 and ends on Thursday 21 July 2022

(Half term from Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June 2022)

Term	Start date	End Date
Autumn 2021	2 September 2021	17 December 2021
	Half term 25 October - 29 October 2021	
Spring 2022	4 January 2022	8 April 2022
	Half term 21 - 25 February 2022	
Summer 2022	25 April 2022	21 July 2022
	Half term 30 May – 3 June 2022	

Please note that the dates as published are correct.

It has now been agreed and confirmed that 2 September 2021 is the start date for the Autumn Term 2020/21.

Please also note that the first day of the Autumn Term in September 2022 will not be determined until the 2022/23 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.