

Urgent Decision to be taken by the Portfolio Holder (Education and Learning) on 7 July 2017

School Term and Holiday Dates 2018/19

Recommendation:

That the Portfolio Holder rescinds the decision made on 16th June and approves the school term and holiday dates for 2018/19 set out in option 1.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 The Local Authority (LA) is currently responsible for setting school term and holiday dates for all Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools. Academies, Foundation and Aided Schools are responsible for setting their own term dates.
- 1.2 A number of 'guiding principles' have traditionally been used to set the pattern of terms and holidays and effort is made to adhere to as many of the following as possible:
1. 195 days from which the five teacher days are taken;
 2. Two of the five days defined by the local authority, one of these days is at the start of the autumn and spring terms; the other three to be set by schools;
 3. Complete weeks when setting holiday dates wherever possible;
 4. A three weekend break at Christmas and Easter;
 5. A summer break as close to six weeks as possible;
 6. A pattern which is as consistent as possible with neighbouring authorities.
- 1.2 A report was considered by Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning to seek agreement for 2018/19 term dates on 16th June 2017. Subsequently additional information was provided by Head Teachers which raised concern over the agreed term dates.
- 1.3 Before the consultation period began discussions were carried out with neighbouring authorities to align dates as much as possible. It was the West Midlands Regional Group Meeting who initially proposed the 5 week summer

holiday option (Option 2) at the Meeting to discuss Holiday and Term Dates. It was for this reason that Option 2 was added to this consultation. At the time of submitting the previous report to Portfolio Holder of Education and Learning, Warwickshire County Council was still waiting for the neighbouring authorities to complete their consultation and make a firm decision on the outcome for their 2018/19 term dates.

- 1.4 West Midlands and neighbouring authorities have now published their 2018/19 term dates; although the West Midlands group suggested consulting on the 5 week summer break, none have decided to adopt it. These dates have been collated and included in appendix A.
- 1.5 In addition to this, responses have been received outside of the consultation period raising concern about the impact of the agreed Warwickshire term dates. The concern is regarding the reduction of school days prior to the summer break due to the additional week holiday in October half term. Several Head Teachers have objected as it is felt the proposed dates would have an adverse impact on pupil's preparation for exams.
- 1.6 Option 1 was the second most popular choice with 30% of respondents in favour, and received support from Head Teachers, Unions and other official groupings.
- 1.7 It is noted that none of the options put forward coincide with all of Warwickshire neighbours. However, the dates in option 1 tie in with Birmingham City Council, and with the exception of October half term, the dates tie in with Coventry City Council.
- 1.8 Although this consultation received a much higher response than previous consultations, it has been recognised that in future Head Teachers would benefit from face to face meetings during the consultation period to ensure officers are able to capture all feedback.
- 1.9 In order to ensure term dates are readily available for parents and employees of Warwickshire Schools, it is proposed that next year Warwickshire County Council will consult and agree on 2 academic years, as several other local authorities already do.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 Due to the foreseen negative effect of less school dates prior to the summer term outlined in option 2, and the knowledge that neighbouring local authorities are not implementing the option which includes a 5 week summer

break, it is recommended that option 1 should be adopted for 2018/19 academic year.

3.0 Next Steps

- 3.1 The term dates for 2018/19 must be made available to the public with immediate effect.

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Appendices

Appendix A – Term date comparison with neighbouring authorities

Appendix B – Options 1, 2 and 3 for 2018/19 school term dates

Appendix C – Previous report to Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning (16th June 2017)

	Warwickshire 1	Warwickshire 2
		5 Week Summer Holiday
Start	3rd September	3rd September
October HT	29th - 2nd	22nd - 2nd November
End of First Term	21st December	21st December
Start of Spring	8th Jan (7th Inset Day)	8th Jan (7th Inset Day)
Spring HT	Monday 18 February 2019 to	Monday 18 February 2019 to
End of Spring Term	Friday 12th April	Friday 12th April
Start of Summer	Monday 29th April	Monday 29th April
Summer HT	27th June - 31st May	27th June - 31st May
Summer Holiday	19th (22nd Inset Day)	26th (29th Inset Day)

Colours are grouped by when the respective term dates match up

Warwickshire 3	Solihull	Birmingham
4th September (3rd Inset Day)	Monday 3 September 2018	Monday 3 September 2018
22nd -26th	Monday 22 October 2018	Monday 29 October 2018
21st December	Friday 21 December 2018	Friday 21 December 2018
7th Jan	Monday 7 January 2019	Monday 7 January 2019
Monday 18 February 2019	Monday 18 February 2019	Monday 18 February 2019
Friday 12th April	Friday 12 April 2019	Friday 12 April 2019
Monday 29th April	Monday 29 April 2019	Monday 29 April 2019
27th June - 31st May	Monday 27 May 2019 to Friday 31 May 2019	Monday 27 May 2019 to Friday 31 May 2019
19th (22nd Inset Day)	Monday 22 July 2019	Monday 22 July 2019

Coventry	Staffordshire	Northamptonshire
Monday 3 September 2019	Inset Day: Monday 3 September 2019	Tuesday 4 September 2019
Monday 22 October 2019	Monday 29 October - Friday 2 November 2019	Monday 22nd October 2019
Friday 21 December 2019	Friday 21 December 2019	Wednesday 19 December 2019
Monday 7 January 2020	Monday 7 January 2020	Thursday 3 January 2019
Monday 18 February 2020	Monday 18 February - Friday 22 February 2020	Monday 18th February 2020
Friday 12 April 2019	Monday 15 April 2019	18th April 2019
Monday 29 April 2019	Monday 29 April 2019	23rd April 2019
Monday 27 May 2019 to Friday 31 May 2019	Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May 2019	Half term: Monday 27 May 2019 to Friday 31 May 2019
Monday 22 July 2019	Monday 22 July 2019	Wednesday 24 July 2019

Oxfordshire	Leicestershire	Gloucestershire
04-Sep	Tuesday 28 August 2018	Mon 3rd Sept
22 October - 26 Oct	Monday 15 October to Fr	Monday 22nd - Friday 26th
21-Dec	Friday 21 December 2018	Fri 21st Dec 2018
07-Jan	Monday 7 January 2019	Mon 7th Jan
18 February - 22 Feb	Monday 18 February to F	18th Feb - 22nd Feb
5th April	Friday 12 April 2019	5th April
23-Apr	Monday 29 April 2019	Tues 23rd April
Monday 27 May - Fr	Monday 27 May to Friday	27th May- 3rd June
24-Jul	Friday 12 July 2019	Tues 23rd July 2019

Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2018/19 Option 1

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
August 2018						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
September 2018						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
October 2018						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
November 2018						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2018						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2019						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2019						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March 2019						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2019						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2019						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2019						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2019						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2019						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2019						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Half Term	Days
1	40
2	35
3	29 (+1)
4	35
5	19
6	35 (+1)
Total	195

	Total days
Autumn Term	75
Spring Term	65
Summer Term	55

- School Holiday
- Public Holiday
- Teacher Training Day
(3 to be set by school)



Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2018/19
Option 2

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
August 2018						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
September 2018						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
October 2018						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
November 2018						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2018						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2019						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2019						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March 2019						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2019						
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2019						
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2019						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2019						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2019						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2019						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Half Term	Days
1	35
2	35
3	29 (+1)
4	35
5	19
6	40 (+1)
Total	195

	Total days
Autumn Term	70
Spring Term	65
Summer Term	60

School Holiday
 Public Holiday
 Teacher Training Day
 (3 to be set by school)



**Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2018/19
Option 3**

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
August 2018						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
September 2018						
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
October 2018						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
November 2018						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
December 2018						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
January 2019						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
February 2019						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
March 2019						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
April 2019						
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
May 2019						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
June 2019						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
July 2019						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
August 2019						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
September 2019						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Half Term	Days
1	34 (+1)
2	40
3	30
4	35
5	19
6	35 (+1)
Total	195

	Total days
Autumn Term	75
Spring Term	65
Summer Term	55

School Holiday
 Public Holiday
 Teacher Training Day
 (3 to be set by school)



Portfolio Holder (Education and Learning) Decision Making Session

16th June 2017

School Term and Holiday Dates 2018/19

Recommendation:

That the Portfolio Holder approves the school term and holiday dates for the 2018/19 academic year as set out below.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 The Local Authority (LA) is currently responsible for setting school term and holiday dates for all Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools. Academies, Foundation and Aided Schools are responsible for setting their own term dates. There is collaboration between the LA and Academies; Foundation and Aided schools which have been invited to consult on the term dates and have generally followed the Local Authority's pattern of terms and holiday dates.
- 1.2 A number of 'guiding principles' have traditionally been used to set the pattern of terms and holidays and effort is made to adhere to as many of the following as possible:
1. 195 days from which the five teacher days are taken;
 2. Two of the five days defined by the local authority, one of these days is at the start of the autumn and spring terms; the other three to be set by schools;
 3. Complete weeks when setting holiday dates wherever possible;
 4. A three weekend break at Christmas and Easter;
 5. A summer break as close to six weeks as possible;
 6. A pattern which is as consistent as possible with neighbouring authorities.
- 1.3 The consultation ran between the 15th of January 2017 and the 31st of January 2017; this consultation was carried out with schools, neighbouring authorities, parents and other interested parties for the academic year 2018/2019.
- 1.4 The three options put forward for consideration differed in several ways.
- **Option 1:** The academic year would begin on Monday 3rd September and continue through till the 22nd of July with this day being a teacher training day so for pupils they would finish the year on the 19th of July. Christmas holidays would be for 2

weeks from the 21st of December till the 7th of January which is a teacher training day so the pupils would return on the 8th. The two half terms would run from the 29th of October till the 2nd of November and the February half term would run from the 18th till the 22nd.

- **Option 2:** School would begin on the 3rd of September and continue through to the 29th of July for teachers with pupils breaking up the Friday before (the 26th). This would result in a 5 week summer holiday with the extra week being added to the October half term which would run from the 19th of October till the 5th of November. The other term dates would match that of Option 1 with the Christmas holidays beginning on the 21st of December and ending on the 7th of January for staff and the 8th for pupils. There would be a 2 week break for Easter from the 12th of April till the 29th and May half term being the last week of the month.
- **Option 3:** These term dates would largely match Option 1 but with the 3rd of September being a teacher training day rather than the 7th of January and the October half term being moved forward a week to cover the period from the 22nd till the 26th of October.

1.5 Before the consultation period began discussions were carried out with neighbouring authorities to align dates as much as possible. It was the West Midlands Regional Group Meeting who initially proposed the 5 week summer holiday option (Option 2) at the Meeting to discuss Holiday and Term Dates. It was for this reason that Option 2 was added to this consultation. Warwickshire County Council is currently still waiting for the neighbouring authorities to complete their consultation and make a firm decision on the outcome for their 2018/19 term dates.

1.6 In total 303 responses were received from this consultation through the AskWarwickshire Website, the online Survey, directly through emails, and through general correspondence. Of these 303 responses only 10 were deemed to be invalid through not stating a preference. This is a large increase on the previous year's consultation which on received 81 responses, Warwickshire County Council is crediting this on the increased dissemination of the consultation to a wider audience.

1.7 Of these respondents 136 or 45% were in favour of Option 2, this makes it the most popular option. Those who identified as School Governors, Teachers or Parents were largely responsible for this being in the majority. Those that chose this option pointed to the greater benefits to child welfare by shortening the initial autumn term into more manageable pieces. Of the other respondents Headteachers, Unions and other official groupings were in favour of Option 1, with 93 30% respondents or 30% in favour of this option.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 Due to the large amount of positive responses for option 2 and its expected positive impact upon learning it is recommended that option 2 be adopted for the 2018/19 academic year.

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Portfolio Holder	Councillor Hayfield	Cllrhayfield@warwickshire.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix A – Written responses to consultation

Appendix B – Options 1, 2 and 3 for 2018/19 school term dates

Appendix C – EQIA