Bath & North East Somerset Council									
MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Kevin Guy, Cabinet Member for Children's Services								
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	On or after 14 th March 2020	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE: E3192							
TITLE: School Term and Holiday Dates 2021-22 Academic Year									
WARD:	All								
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM									
	chments to this report: School Term and Holiday Dates 2021-22 Academic Yea	r							

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 To consider the school term and holiday dates for the 2021-22 academic year

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to:

- 2.1 Recommend to all schools the Council's preferred calendar of school term and holiday dates for the academic year 2021-22, based on the 195 day model.
- 2.2 To approve the calendar attached at Appendix A, which will maximise consistency of dates for the benefit of children and their parents within Bath & North East Somerset.
- 2.3 To note that Multi Academy Trusts (MATs), Academies, Foundation, Free School and Voluntary Aided Schools have the power to determine their own term and holiday dates

3 THE REPORT

3.1 Local Authorities are expected to propose a calendar of school term and holiday dates for public consultation.

- 3.2 There are two ways the dates can be proposed. Option 1 is a 195 day model with 5 in-service days being taken within these dates. Option 2 is a 190 day model with 5 in-service days being taken outside of these dates. Historically the Council has adopted Option 1 but between 2014 and 2016 it set a calendar based on Option 2. This did not prove popular with schools and the Council has since reverted to Option 1, the 195 day model.
- 3.3 The Council endeavours to set school term and holiday dates in line with neighbouring local authorities where this is practical. In some instances, where authorities propose differing dates, this is not always possible. Council officers consult with colleagues in neighbouring authorities prior to public consultation to align dates as closely as possible.
- 3.4 Following approval of the agreed school term and holiday dates these will be circulated to schools and published on the Council's website in late Spring 2020.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations 1999 (SI 1999 No. 3181) state that in each academic year a school shall be open to receive pupils for not less than 380 sessions or 190 days. These proposed dates satisfy those requirements.
- 4.2 To try and achieve consistency in dates across all schools the Local Authority will recommend a set of dates for approval by individual governing bodies.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 5.1 The standard academic year is based on 195 school days. Schools are open for 190 days and 5 days are used for in-service training. The Home to School Transport (HTST) budget is based on the financial year and is adjusted annually depending on the number of days which schools are open in the financial year. There will normally be 190 school days when the Council provide transport. However, depending on when the Easter Holiday falls this can vary slightly from year to year. If the Easter holiday means the number of days increase in one year this is usually compensated by a fall in the following year and vice versa.
- 5.2 If as a result of a school adopting their own dates, there is an increase in HTST costs the Council will recover the additional cost from the school.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision-making risk management quidance.

7 CLIMATE CHANGE

7.1 Aligning term dates, as closely as possible, between schools and local authorities reduces the need for additional car journeys. Extra journeys can be a consequence where children attend different schools or if parents are employed in educational establishments and term dates do not coincide.

8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 None — to ensure the proposed dates align as closely as possible to neighbouring local authorities

9 CONSULTATION

- 9.1 Consultation took place with all schools between 2nd January 2020 and 14th February 2020
- 9.2 Consultation has taken place with neighbouring authorities who are consulting on similar dates to those shown in the 195 day model
- 9.3 The proposed dates were also placed on the consultations page of the Council's website.
- 9.4 There were no responses received by the Council during the consultation period.

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Background papers							

Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format

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