

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Dine Romero, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Communities and Culture	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	Not before 26 March 2022	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 3338
TITLE:	School Term and Holiday Dates 2023-24 Academic Year	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix A School Term and Holiday Dates 2023-24 Academic Year		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 To consider the school term and holiday dates for the 2023-24 academic year

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is asked to;

2.1 Recommend to all schools the Council's preferred calendar of school term and holiday dates for the academic year 2023-24, 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 2022.

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 guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 No adverse impacts were identified from the Equalities Impact Assessment.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 8.1 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.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 None – to ensure the proposed dates align as closely as possible to neighbouring local authorities

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 Consultation took place with all schools between 6th January 2022 and 18th February 2022.

10.2 Consultation has taken place with neighbouring authorities with most consulting on the same dates to those shown in the Bath & North East Somerset 195 day model.

10.3 The proposed dates were also placed on the consultations page of the Council's website.

10.4 There was one response to the consultation received by the Council during the consultation period. This response is shown at Appendix B

Contact person	Josephine Rees – 01225 395149
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

PROPOSED SCHOOL TERM & HOLIDAY DATES 2023-2024

September 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				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	

October 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						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					

November 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		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 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				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 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			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			

March 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				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 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		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 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					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 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			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	

 Bank Holiday

 School Holiday

 Term Time

<u>Bank & Public Holidays 2023/24</u>	<u>Terms</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Number of Days</u>
Christmas Day – 25 th December 2023	Term 1	01 September – 20 October 2023	36
Boxing Day – 26 th December 2023	Term 2	30 October – 15 December 2023	35
New Year's Day – 1 st January 2024	Term 3	02 January – 09 February 2024	29
Good Friday – 29 th March 2024	Term 4	19 February – 28 March 2024	29
Easter Monday – 1 st April 2024	Term 5	15 April – 24 May 2024	29
May Day – 6 th May 2024	Term 6	03 June – 23 July 2024	37
Spring Bank Holiday – 27 th May 2024			
Summer Bank Holiday – 26 th August 2024			

An additional 5 days are available for professional training (inset days). These additional closures are set by the Headteacher and Governors of individual schools.

RESPONSES TO CONSULATION

The following responses were received during the consultation period.

- Comments from a parent at a secondary school – *“My observation is that the October and February half terms fall a week too early in your proposals..compared to their traditional placing”*.

Response - Holiday periods fall broadly in line with a set pattern but do fluctuate on a yearly basis. The February half term is generally determined by whether Easter falls earlier or later in the year. Dates are proposed to align closely or be the same as neighbouring Local Authorities and to provide terms that are as equal in length as possible.