



Report sponsor: Cllr Whitby, Cabinet Member.
Sharon Buckby, Director of Learning, Inclusion
and Skills
Report author: Jayne Hadfield, Governor
Support Manager

ITEM 9

Consultation On School Term and Holiday Dates 2025/26 and 2026/27

Purpose

- 1.1 Setting school term and holiday dates in advance is a standard Local Authority function. This is achieved through consultation with stakeholders. The dates relate primarily to Local Authority maintained schools, however all schools in Derby are able to use this as a basis for setting their closure dates for staff training, and holidays.
- 1.2 The aim is secure reasonable consistency in particular for families who have connections with different schools.

Recommendations

- 2.1 To agree the school term and holiday dates for the academic years 2025/26 and 2026/27 as outlined in paragraph 5.4 table 2.
- 2.2 To authorise circulation of the proposed dates.

Reasons

- 3.1 Officers have consulted widely with school staff, governors, parents, Diocesans, MAT CEOs, Trade Union reps, the public and neighbouring authorities about the proposed dates.
- 3.2 The dates in appendix 1 reflect that consultation and comply with statutory requirements.

Supporting information

- 4.1 The Local Authority determines the school term and holiday dates for local authority maintained schools. Foundation and voluntary aided schools and academies are recommended to adopt the same pattern of dates. It is advised that the Local Authority still sets guidelines.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 Stakeholders have been consulted by email, any responses are included with the school consultation figures. Schools were asked through the schools' circular to consult as widely as possibly with their staff and communities. The City Council has

made use of its website and Social Media feeds with two set of dates for each year published on the consultation pages.

- 5.2 Consultations have taken place with school staff, governors, parents, the Diocesans and chief executives of multi academy trusts; trade union representatives; the general public; and neighbouring local authorities on the proposed dates as outlined in Appendix 1.
- 5.3 Table 1, below, details the consultation findings. There were also 22 comments emailed in. The majority of respondents were in favour of option A to mirror Derbyshire dates

Table 1: Combined responses from the public consultation and school staff consultation are:

	Public		Schools	
	Option A	Option B	Option A	Option B
2025/26	4466 (76.4%)	1376 (23.6%)	256 (89%)	31 (11%)
2026/26	4277 (73.4%)	1547 (26.6%)	210 (87.5%)	30 (12.5%)

- 5.4 Table 2: Recommended Term dates:

2025/26 Option A (mirror Derbyshire)	2026/27 Option A (mirror Derbyshire)
Thu 4 Sep 2025 – Fri 24 Oct	Fri 4 Sep 2026 – Fri 23 Oct
Half term - 27/10/25 – 31/10/25	Half term - 23/10/26 – 30/10/26
Mon 3 Nov – Fri 19 Dec	Mon 2 Nov – Fri 18 Dec
Christmas - 22/12/25 – 02/01/26	Christmas - 21/12/26 – 01/01/27
Mon 5 Jan – Fri 13 Feb	Mon 4 Jan 2027 – Fri 12 Feb
Half Term - 16/02/26 – 20/02/26	Half Term - 15/02/27 – 19/02/27
Mon 23 Feb – Fri 27 Mar	Mon 22 Feb – Thu 25 Mar
Easter - 30/03/26 – 10/04/26	Easter - 26/03/27 – 09/04/27
Mon 13 Apr – Fri 22 May	Mon 12 Apr – Fri 28 May
Half Term - 25/05/26 – 29/05/26	Half Term - 31/05/27 – 04/06/27
Mon 1 Jun – Thu 23 Jul	Mon 7 Jun – Mon 26 Jul

Other options

- 6.1 The Local Authority considered other options but chose to consult on two sets of proposed dates as the most sensible option, one of which mirrored Derbyshire County Council.

Financial and value for money issues

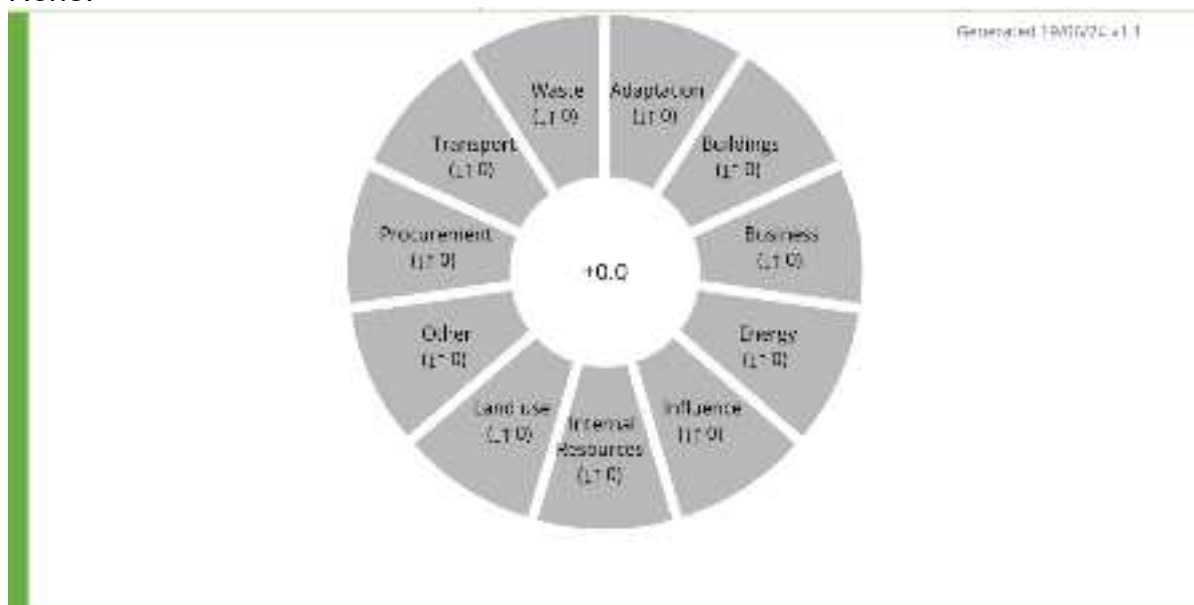
- 7.1 None

Legal implications

- 8.1 Under the Education (School Day and School Year) Regulations 1999, as amended, each school must have 380 school sessions (190 days) per academic year. Any teacher training (INSET) days are usually above and beyond this and can be chosen by the individual schools.

Climate implications

- 9.1 None.



Socio-Economic implications

- 10.1 None

Other significant implications

- 11.1 None – all stakeholders have been consulted.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	Olu Idowu, Head of Legal, Insurance & Information Governance	24/06/24
Finance	Janice Hadfield, Head of Finance	25/06/24
Service Director(s)	Andy Smith, Strategic Director of People Services	25/06/24
Report sponsor	Sharon Buckby, Director of Learning, Inclusion & Skills	24/06/24
Other(s)		

Background papers:

List of appendices: Appendix 1 –
Term dates proposed for 2025-27