

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

This matter is a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has been included in the relevant Forward Plan.

**Report of the Executive Director
(Children's Services) to Cabinet**

SCHOOL TERM TIMES AND HOLIDAY DATES FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS 2022-2023

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek approval for the term times and holiday dates pattern for the 2022-2023 school year to maintain the three-year rolling programme of dates.

2 Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 **The draft proposed term times and holiday dates for 2022-2023 as outlined in the Appendix to this report, be approved.**

3 Introduction

- 3.1 The setting of the three-year rolling programme of term times was introduced to enable schools to plan strategically over a longer period.
- 3.2 It was agreed that in each successive year the pattern will be extended by a further year to maintain the rolling three-year programme
- 3.3 Term dates are determined by a set of agreed principles adopted by 26 Local Authorities in the North East of England and the proposed draft is compliant with these.
- 3.4 For 2018-19, consideration was given to a proposed change from the traditional model and Barnsley Council undertook discretionary consultation with a wider group of stakeholders than was required statutorily.
- 3.5 Following analysis of the responses, Cabinet determined that the 'traditional' pattern of a long summer break would remain and that full consultation would not be required for the following years unless there was a significant demand for change, to acknowledge that the overall response previously was to remain with the traditional pattern.

4 Proposals and Justification

- 4.1 It is proposed that the continuation of the current 'traditional' pattern of school term and holiday dates be adopted for the academic year 2022-2023.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 Discussions have also taken place between the four South Yorkshire Local Authorities, as they do on an annual basis, in order to co-ordinate holiday dates as far as possible.
- 5.2 A number of authorities are now adopting a fixed Easter pattern (Sheffield and Doncaster) but for the 2022-2023 school year this pattern is the same as the traditional pattern due to when the Easter period falls this year. All South Yorkshire Authorities will, therefore, be proposing a very similar pattern for 2022-2023.
- 5.2 The relevant Trade Unions have been consulted and responses have been received from NEU and NASUWT with no objections to the drafts circulated.

6 Risk Management

- 6.1 The statutory duty for determining term times and holiday dates for community and voluntary controlled schools remains that of the Local Authority although informal consultation in order to maintain an open and transparent process has been undertaken as above.
- 6.2 There are often minor variances at voluntary aided schools and academies since it is the responsibility of their respective governing bodies to determine their individual dates.

8 Financial and Employee Implications

- 8.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

9 List of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Draft Proposed Term and Holiday Dates 2022-2023

10. Background Papers

Background papers can be viewed by contacting governance@barnsley.gov.uk

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Financial Implications/Consultation



Joshua Amahwe (11/02/2021)

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*(To be signed by senior Financial Services officer
where there are no financial implications*