

**OFFICER DECISIONS CHECKLIST**

Decision Maker	
Authority Used	
Subject/Decision	
Access	
Contact Person/Number	
Authorised Signatory	
Dated	

Date Received by Delegations Group	
Date checked	
Reasons not processed at this stage:-	
Date agreed for processing	
Date published and initials	

**Additional Checks**

Authority and decision maker checked against service delegated scheme	
Date added to spreadsheet and initials	

## DECISION RECORD (Version August 2014)

*Please complete all sections*

### DECISION MAKER

John Pearce  
Corporate Director  
Children and Young People's Services

### AUTHORITY BY REFERENCE TO SCHEME OF DELEGATION/COMMITTEE REPORT

2. Table 5  
Paragraph 1.4

### SUBJECT

3. School Holiday and Term Dates 2022/23.

### DECISION

4. **If Key Decision insert No.**  
Approval given for the 2022/23 school holiday and term dates.

### ELECTORAL DIVISION/S

5. All divisions.

### CONSULTATION – CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER, OTHER MEMBERS & DATE

6. All Durham Schools.  
North East Regional Local Authorities.  
Teaching and Non-teaching Unions.

### RECORD OF ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARED BY AN EXECUTIVE MEMBER

7. None.

### A NOTE OF DISPENSATION GRANTED BY THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE IN RELATION TO THE ABOVE CONFLICT

8. N/A.

## ACCESS TO THE REPORT

Is the report open to the public (Part A)?

Yes

9. Is the report exempt (Part B) – if so, please specify the exemption paragraph and the reason for exemption applying the Public Interest Test

## CONTACT PERSON

Graeme Plews

## CONTACT No.

03000 265777

## AUTHORISED SIGNATORY

10.



## DATE

11. 21 December 2020

This form must be sent electronically to [delegations@durham.gov.uk](mailto:delegations@durham.gov.uk) within 24 hours of the decision being made.

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## NOTES

1. The reference No. will be assigned by Democratic Services.
2. The relevant paragraph within the decision makers delegated powers should be identified.
3. A brief heading should be inserted.
4. Brief details of the decision should be inserted. This note must set out the substance of the decisions, options considered and the reasons for the chosen option. Take care not to divulge any commercially sensitive information. If it's a Key Decision insert the No.
5. List the electoral division/s that will be affected by the decision.
6. Set out the consultation you have undertaken with Cabinet portfolio holder and others.
7. See Guidance "Consultation with Portfolio Holder".
8. **See Guidance "Consultation with Portfolio Holder".**
9. Please refer to the Access to Information Requirements that came into force from 1 March 2006 and the internal guidance that has been issued in this respect.
10. Person authorised to make the decision. When sent to democratic services, this will be an electronic signature.
11. Enter the date the decision was made.

## Delegated Decision

17 December 2020

## School Holiday and Term Dates 2022/23



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## Report of John Pearce, Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services

### Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide.

### Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services, using delegated powers for the school holiday and term dates for the academic year 2022/23.

### Background

- 2 Section 32 of the Education Act 2002 gives Local Authorities the duty to determine the school holiday and term time dates for community and voluntary controlled schools. In the case of Voluntary Aided and Foundation Schools, Free Schools and Academies, Governing Bodies are the responsible bodies for determining when the school term and holidays are to begin and end although the Local Authority recommends that they adopt those dates determined for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools.
- 3 To try to standardise term dates in the north east, the practice is for the various options to be exchanged via email prior to finalising the proposal dates on which to consult. However, standardisation has proved difficult to achieve with Local Authorities proposing different dates and two options were therefore consulted on for Durham. These are attached as appendices 2 and 3. The difference is the first option has schools closing on 23 December 2022 and re-opening on 9 January 2023. The second option has them closing on 20 December 2022 and resuming on 4 January 2023. All other start and end of term and half term dates are the same in both options.

- 4 A consultation on the proposed holiday and term dates for the academic year 2022/23 was carried out between 7 October 2020 and 11 December 2020 with all Durham Schools and Academies, Teaching and Non-Teaching Unions and the following Local Authorities:

Sunderland, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Gateshead, South Tyneside, Darlington, Northumberland, North Yorkshire, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough and Stockton.

### **Responses to the Consultation**

- 5 Twelve responses from schools were received to that consultation. Four responses favoured option 1 i.e. Autumn Term finishing on Friday 23 December 2022 and Spring Term commencing on Monday 9 January 2023. One of the four respondents felt that a term ending on a Friday and resuming on a Monday facilitates better school attendance. Eight responses favoured option 2 i.e. Autumn Term finishing on Tuesday 20 December 2022 and Spring Term commencing on Wednesday 4 January 2023. Respondents expressed the view that the week after New Year's Day is "dead time" and feel that it is preferable for staff and pupils to resume early into the New Year.
- 6 Those neighbouring authorities with most cross - border movement with Durham are Darlington and Sunderland. Darlington's term dates align with option 2 whereas Sunderland's align with option 1.

### **Conclusion**

- 7 As stated in paragraphs 3 and 6 of this report, it is not possible to have uniformity across the regional authorities. It is also becoming increasingly difficult to get uniformity across all schools as more convert to academy status and set dates which can differ from those set by the Local Authority.
- 8 The majority of schools that responded favour Autumn Term ending on Tuesday 20 December 2002 and Spring Term commencing on Wednesday 4 January 2023.

### **Recommendation**

- 9 The proposed option 2 holiday and term dates (attached as appendix 3) for the academic year 2022/23 are agreed.

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

The actions described in this report comply with Section 32 of the Education Act 2002 that gives Local Authorities the duty to determine the school holiday and term time dates for community and voluntary controlled schools.

### **Finance**

N/A.

### **Consultation**

- All Durham Schools and Academies.
- North East Local Authorities.
- Teaching and Non-teaching Unions.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

N/A.

### **Climate Change**

N/A.

### **Human Rights**

N/A.

### **Crime and Disorder**

N/A

### **Staffing**

N/A.

### **Accommodation**

N/A.

### **Risk**

N/A.

### **Procurement**

N/A.



### PROPOSED SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/22

SEPTEMBER 2021 (22 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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 2021 (16 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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 2021 (22 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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 2021 (13 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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 2022 (20 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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 2022 (15 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		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 2022 (23 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		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 2022 (11 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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 2022 (19 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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 2022 (19 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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 2022 (15 days)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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	1/9	2/9	

  School Holidays

Total Term Dates = 195

  Bank Holidays

The number of term days shown is 195. Schools must be open to pupils for 190 days and staff must be available for work on a further five days or the equivalent for in-service training (PD days). Pupils will not attend on those PD days. Each school determines when these will take place and will inform parents. The new school year will begin on **Monday 5 September 2022**.