

NEATH Port Talbot COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION
CABINET BOARD

2nd June 2016

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF TRANSFORMATION
ANDREW THOMAS

MATTER FOR DECISION

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2018/2019

Purpose of Report

To obtain Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Board approval to consult on proposed school term dates in respect of the 2018/2019 academic year.

Executive Summary

The Council is responsible for determine school terms and holiday dates for community and maintained special schools and is required to consult on its proposals prior to determination.

Permission is sought to consult on the proposed 2018/2019 term dates attached as Appendix A and to notify the Welsh Government on the dates approved.

Background

To ensure harmonisation of school term dates across Wales, the Welsh Government have issued legislation on the setting of school term dates.

The legislation requires that the Council and the voluntary aided schools in the relevant co-operate and co-ordinate with each to

other to ensure that school term dates are the same (or as similar as can be).

Where agreement cannot be reached, Welsh Ministers have the power, following consultation, to intervene and direct the Council.

It is a requirement that the Council notifies the Welsh Ministers of term dates for the school year 2018/2019 by the final working day in August 2016 and that notice must be sent at least two school years in advance.

The 2018/2019 school term dates proposed by Neath Port Talbot are those that have been agreed by the ERW Consortia and are the same as those proposed by the North Consortia and South Central Consortia. However, it is to be noted that the South East Consortia proposed term dates have an earlier February midterm holiday.

Approval is sought to consult on the proposed 2018/2019 term dates attached as Appendix A.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

A Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment it has been determined that this Policy does not require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA). There are no equality impacts associated with this report.

Workforce Impacts

There are no workforce impacts associated with this report. Consultation will include teacher associations and trade unions.

Legal Impacts

The Council has a statutory duty to consult on proposed school term dates.

Legislation requires that 2018/2019 school term dates must be submitted to the Welsh Ministers by the final working day of August 2016.

In consulting on proposed school term dates, the Council's arrangements conform to the requirements of The Education (Notification of School Term Dates) (Wales) Regulations 2014.

Risk Management

There are requirements placed on the Council to consult and determine the school term dates prior to submission to the Welsh Ministers. Failure to do so places at risk the reputation of the Council.

Consultation

Approval is sought to consult with governing bodies, other admission authorities (including those in the relevant area) and other interested parties.

Recommendations

To approve consultation on the proposed 2018/2019 school term dates.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

To enable the Authority to meet its statutory duties.

Implementation of Decision

The decision is proposed for implementation after a three day call in period.

Appendices

Appendix A: Proposed School Term Dates 2018/2019.

List of Background Papers

- a. The Education (Notification of School Term Dates)(Wales) Regulations 2014
- b. The Education Act 2002
- c. The Education (Wales) Act 2014

Officer Contact

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School Terms and Holiday Dates
2018/2019 Academic Year

		Mid Term Holiday			
Term	Term Begins	Begins	Ends	Term Ends	Days
Autumn 2018	Monday 3rd September	Monday 29th October	Friday 2nd November	Friday 21st December	75
Spring 2019	Monday 7th January	Monday 25th February	Friday 1st March	Friday 12th April	65
Summer 2019	Monday 29th April	Monday 27th May	Friday 31st May	Monday 22nd July	55
				Total	195

Schools will be closed to pupils for INSET/Staff Preparation on five days between Monday 3rd September 2018 and Monday 22nd July 2019.

Bank Holidays

Good Friday,	19th April 2019
Easter Monday,	22nd April 2019
May Day, closed)	6th May 2019 (All schools
Spring Bank Holiday,	27th May 2019