

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EDUCATION SKILLS AND CULTURE CABINET BOARD

20th July 2017

Report of the Head of Transformation Andrew Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: ALL WARDS

School Terms Dates 2019/2020

Purpose of the Report

1. To obtain Education Skills and Culture Cabinet Board permission to approve School terms dates in respect of the 2019/2020 academic year.

Executive Summary

2. The Local Authority is responsible for determining school terms and holiday dates for community and maintained special schools.
3. The proposed school term dates 2019/2020 have been consulted upon.
4. Consultation took place between the 13th March 2017 and 5th May 2017. Consultees included governing bodies, trade unions and other admission authorities including those in the relevant area.

Background

5. To ensure harmonisation of school term dates across Wales, the Welsh Government have issued legislation which gives the Welsh Ministers power to direct authorities and the governing bodies of voluntary aided and foundation schools on the school term dates that they set.
6. Where agreement cannot be met Welsh Ministers have the power to intervene and direct the Local Authority.

7. It is a requirement that the Authority inform the Welsh Ministers of term dates for the school year 2019/2020 by the final working day in August 2017.
8. The 2019/2020 school term dates proposed by Neath Port Talbot are those that have been agreed by the Education through Regional Working (ERW) Consortia and are the same as those proposed by the North Consortia and South Central Consortia.
9. At its meeting of 2nd March 2017, the Children, Young People and Education Board approved consultation on the proposed 2019/2020 school term dates.
10. Consultation took place between the 13th March 2017 and 5th May 2017. Consultees included governing bodies, trade unions and other admission authorities including those in the relevant area.
11. Permission is sought to approve the proposed 2019/2020 term dates. The term dates are attached as Appendix A.

Consultation

12. Consultation took place between the 13th March 2017 and 5th May 2017. Consultees included governing bodies, trade unions and other admission authorities including those in the relevant area.
13. Responses were received from St Joseph's RC Junior School and St Joseph's Catholic Infant School.
14. No comments were received from neighbouring Authorities
15. No comments were received from the Trade Unions.
16. A summary of the responses are attached as Appendix B as a consultation report. Also attached are the individual comments received(Appendix C)

Financial Impact

17. There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

18. 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

19. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

20. In relation to this specific purpose of the report, there is a legal requirement that the 2019/2020 school term dates must be submitted to the Welsh Ministers by the final working day of August 2017.

Risk Management

21. There are requirements placed on the Local Authority to determine the school term dates prior to submission to the Welsh Ministers.

Recommendations

22. To approve the proposed 2019/2020 school term dates for submission to the Welsh Ministers.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

23. To enable the Authority to meet its statutory duty.

Implementation of Decision

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

Appendices

25. Appendix A: Proposed School Term Dates 2019/2020
26. Appendix B: Consultation Report
27. Appendix C: Individual responses to consultation.

List of Background Papers

28. The Education (Notification of School Term Dates)(Wales) Regulations 2014
29. School Standards and Framework Act, 1998

Officer Contact

30. Mrs H Lewis - School Admissions

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Appendix A

School Terms and Holiday Dates 2019/2020 Academic Year

		Mid Term Holiday			
Term	Term	Begins	Ends	Term Ends	Days
Autumn 2019	Monday 2 nd September	Monday 28 th October	Friday 1 st November	Friday 20 th December	75
Spring 2020	Monday 6 th January	Monday 17 th February	Friday 21 st February	Friday 3 rd April	60
Summer 2020	Monday 20 th April	Monday 25 th May	Friday 29 th May	Monday 20 th July	60
				Total	195

Schools will be closed to pupils for INSET/Staff Preparation on five days between Monday 2nd September 2019 and Monday 20th July 2020.

Bank Holidays

Good Friday,	10 th April 2020
Easter Monday,	13 th April 2020
May Day,	4 th May 2020 (All schools closed)
Spring Bank Holiday,	25 th May 2020