

**NEATH PORT TALBOT
COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Education Skills and Culture Cabinet Board

16th October, 2020

REPORT OF HEAD OF TRANSFORMATION

ANDREW THOMAS

MATTER FOR DECISION

WARDS AFFECTED – ALL

School Term Dates 2022/2023

Purpose of the Report

To seek approval on the proposed school term dates in respect of the 2022/2023 academic year.

Executive Summary

By way of an urgent action report in May, 2020 permission was given to commence a period of consultation on the proposed school term dates in respect of 2022/23 academic year. The consultation process has subsequently concluded with no comments or observations having been received in favour or otherwise of the proposal. This report, therefore,

seeks Members permission to now agree the term dates for 2022/23 as proposed in the original report of May, 2020.

Over the summer period Welsh Government temporarily amended legislation that requires local authorities to agree and submit to them term dates by no later than the end of August each year to the end of December for this one year only due COVID pressures of work.

Background

Members will be aware that the local authority is responsible in determining school term and holiday dates for community and maintained special schools and is required to consult on its proposals prior to determination.

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.

Where agreement cannot be met, Welsh Ministers have the power to intervene and direct the Local Authority.

In May, 2020 permission was given to commence a period of consultation. Consultees included Headteachers, governing bodies, trade unions, faith diocesans and other neighbouring admission authorities.

The 2022/2023 school term dates proposed by Neath Port Talbot are the same as those that neighbouring authorities have also consulted upon and are being asked to approve.

The consultation process has subsequently concluded with no comments or observations received in favour or otherwise of the proposals. Members are, therefore, asked to approve the proposals as consulted on and 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.

Legal Impacts

The Local Authority has a statutory requirement to consult on proposed school term dates.

There is a legal requirement that the approved 2022/2023 school term dates must be submitted to the Welsh Ministers by the final working day of December 2020 [Note: ordinarily this legal requirement is required to be undertaken by the end of August of each year].

Risk Management

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

Recommendations

To approve for submission to the Welsh Minister the proposed 2022/2023 school term dates.

Implementation of Decision

To enable the Authority to meet its statutory duties.

Appendices

Appendix A: Proposed School Term Dates 2022/2023.

List of Background Papers

The Education (Notification of School Term Dates)(Wales) Regulations 2014

Education Act 2002 (S32a).

Officer Contact

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School Terms and Holiday Dates
2022/2023 Academic Year

		Mid Term Holiday			
Term	Term	Begins	Ends	Term Ends	Days
Autumn 2022	Monday 5th September	Monday 31 st October	Friday 4 th November	Friday 23 rd December	75
Spring 2023	Monday 9 th January	Monday 20 th February	Friday 24 th February	Friday 31 st March	55
Summer 2023	Monday 17 th April	Monday 29 th May	Friday 2 nd June	Monday 24 th July	65
				Total	195

Schools will be closed to pupils for INSET/Staff training on five days between Monday, 5th September, 2022 and Monday, 24th July, 2023.

Bank Holidays

Good Friday	Friday, 7 th April, 2023
Easter Monday	Monday, 10 th April, 2023
May Bank Holiday	Monday, 1 st May, 2023
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday, 29 th May, 2023