

Portfolio Holder Decision

Amendment to School Term Dates 2021/22

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Children, Families & Education
Date of decision	23 August 2021
	Signed

1. Decision taken

1.1 That the Portfolio Holder for Children, Families and Education agrees to amend the Warwickshire school term and holiday dates for 2021/22 by including an additional day of holiday at the end of the year, on Friday 22nd July 2022.

2. Reasons for decisions

2.1 An additional national bank holiday has been agreed on Friday 3rd June 2022 in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Warwickshire schools will already be on their summer half-term holiday on this day. It is proposed that the additional one-day holiday will therefore be taken by schools on Friday 22nd July 2022, meaning that the Summer Term 2022 will now end on Thursday 21st July 2022.

3. Background information

3.1 Warwickshire County Council (WCC) is responsible for setting school term and holiday dates for all Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools. Typically, the majority of Voluntary Aided, Foundation and Academy schools have also followed the same term and holiday dates. Warwickshire school term dates for 2021/22 were determined by the Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning on 21 February 2020.

3.2 In November 2020 an additional national bank holiday was announced, to take place on 3rd June 2022 to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen.

3.3 As Warwickshire schools, along with those in many other local authorities (LAs), will be on half term holiday for this additional bank holiday, an additional day of school holiday is proposed at the end of the academic year, so that school staff and pupils receive the benefit of this additional day off.

3.4 To accommodate the additional day of school holiday, amendments have been made to The Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations 1999 to reduce the minimum number of sessions which must be held in the school year 2021-

2022 from 380 to 378, to enable relevant schools to close for the additional bank holiday on 3rd June 2022. (There are two sessions in each school day.)

3.4 The amendment to the Regulations does not require authorities to provide a compensatory day off where 3 June falls in half term but it does enable them to do so. Warwickshire endeavours where possible to align with the school term dates of neighbouring LAs, to avoid childcare issues for parents and teachers who live in one LA and work or have children at schools in a different LA. Of the nine LAs that border Warwickshire, seven have determined to amend their school term dates as proposed, to provide schools with an additional day off on Friday 22 July 2022. One (Leicestershire County Council) has determined not to and one (Northamptonshire County Council) has not yet communicated its decision.

3.5 If the proposal is agreed, the change in term dates will be communicated to all Warwickshire schools including Voluntary Aided, Foundation and Academy schools, which may then decide to amend their dates accordingly.

4. Financial implications

4.1 No financial implications for the Authority as a result of the decision to reduce the summer 2022 term by one day have been identified.”

5. Environmental implications

5.1 None

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Lead Director	Strategic Director for Communities
Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Children, Families & Education

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of background papers

None

Members and officers consulted and informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Jeff Morgan

Corporate Board –

Legal – Ian Marriot, Guy Darvill

Finance – Andrew Harper, Virginia Rennie

Equality –

Democratic Services – Helen Barnsley

Councillors –

Local Member(s):