

Appendix 3 – Examples of responses relating to the most commonly raised issues

In Favour
I can see no problem with the date changes
They look fine
Can't see any change
In keeping with the usual practices in the area. Happy with the dates.
Happy with the even spread of dates. Like the summer break which means I'll be able to have a break and it not affect funding etc
I think they're fine. The first and last terms are long but I don't think there's much of a way around it. As a general, I always hope for some INSET days at the start of September and January and the dates seems to allow opportunity for that.
They look similar to 24-25
The dates set are sensible, offering a balanced term length while also respecting the major bank holidays that fall within the school year.
These look fine. Leaving enough time before Christmas and after New Year. End and start of the school year is sensible as well.
They are the same dates each year, I'm not sure if there is anything to consult on unless KCC are planning on changing the guidelines.
I would like the summer holiday to remain the length it is. Children with families who live in other areas of the country are already starved of time with their loved ones due to mismatched term dates the summer holiday is the only one they can guarantee to see family. Shortening it would take that away and would leave us with no choice whatsoever than remove them from school in order to visit family.

Objections
We should have a shorter summer holidays of four weeks and the extra weeks can be in February and October half term to make them two weeks off. Summer holidays are very expensive and having the extra holidays in February and October will mean cheaper holidays so less time people taking off during term time which will be less disruption to everyone else in the class when someone is taking their child out for a holiday during term time
6 weeks holidays over the summer is far too long - this should be reduced to 4 with other LA staggering dates
Summer holidays are too long especially for working parents.
Bring back 6 full weeks holidays. Having a few days at the beginning of the summer and a few days at the end making up the not even 6 weeks means there are less full weeks for people to go away. The prices of holidays have already become unaffordable without lessening the days families can go and many families have to leave before the last days of

<p>term as they have no choice. Then all the complaints of the lower socio economic families not valuing education and society looks down on them! Its better to make the holidays full weeks esp if we dont get the 6 weeks anymore. Give parents a chance and save your attendance statistics!</p>
<p>More needs to be done to stagger school holidays to avoid punitive costs of taking a break</p>
<p>It would be very helpful for parents if the term dates provided some differentiation from the rest of the UK so that if parents wanted to go on holiday they didn't have to make a choice between removing a child from school and paying a fine or paying 3-4 times the price for a holiday. It doesn't have to be all holidays but perhaps take one week from summer and add it to the February/May/October half term for instance.</p>
<p>I would prefer a longer October half term and shorter summer break.</p>
<p>Alter the year to provide a 2 week October half term. Children will benefit as they are exhausted after returning to school from the summer break, and it will enable a period where parents can choose to holiday without taking children out of school but will get cheaper trips.</p>
<p>We would like two weeks half terms in the October and February breaks</p>
<p>I believe it is an out dated term date structure. 6 weeks off over the summer holidays is too long for children to readjust - particularly those with SEN in mainstream schools. 2 weeks for October half term would be a start and have 5 weeks off for summer holidays. Especially as terms 1 and 2 are very long and difficult for children, the extra break would help their resilience in the build up to Christmas when they are significantly more tired and their wellbeing is impacted.</p>
<p>The summer holiday is long and children would benefit from this being slightly shorter with a week given to October or May half term - evidence shows that this would reduce regression in children's learning.</p>
<p>Would prefer for the other holidays to be longer and the July/August holidays to be a couple of weeks shorter.</p>
<p>We have again been ignored, we want an extra week in May/June and not October</p>
<p>Summer holidays should be reduced and all other half term holidays increased to a 2 week break</p>
<p>Christmas needs an extra couple days. Just on the end of the holiday, so return on 3rd or 4th. My children returned to school on the 2nd this year and we all struggled with the quick return after the festive period. My children struggled with the first week back to school because they hadn't had enough time to rest because of the Xmas excitement too</p>
<p>Not enough time at Xmas and too long in summer</p>
<p>Prefer a 4 week summer holiday and a 3 week christmas break</p>
<p>Term 1, 2 and 6 are longer than others. To have more equal terms would help with fatigue of pupils particularly when they first return to school following a long summer break.</p>
<p>Comment on the holiday between term 1 and 2.</p>

Term 2 is a very tiring term particularly for young children with cold and dark weather as well as the excitement of Christmas looming. Making the holiday between terms 1 and 2 one week later meaning 40 days for term 1 and 35 days for term 2 may increase the learning experiences for the children.

Term 2 is too long. 40 days.
Lots of schools now prefer a two week October half term

The first and fifth terms seem too short. I think it would be better having Term 1 as 40 days, and Term 2 as 35. Also, I think Term 5 should be shifted to 29 days, and Term 6 to 32 days.

The start of the academic year on Sept 1st is too early. 4/5th or even later would be better.

Would personally prefer September term to start a week later (or at least a couple of days later) and October half term to be a week later