**Appendix 5- Principles for setting term dates for Stockport Primary and Secondary Schools**

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| **1.** | **Introduction and Background** |
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| 1.1 | The Local Authority have proposed a set of term date principles to be used to determine the school term and holiday dates for Primary and Secondary Schools each year. They follow the pattern which has been used and consulted on for a number of years within the borough, the main difference being the 2-week Whitsun break for Primary and 1 week Whitsun break for Secondary. |
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| 1.2 | The following principles have been applied to the term dates for the 2024-25 Academic Year, Appendix 6, and if approved the principles will determine the dates in subsequent years. The principles will be reviewed every 7 years to ensure they meet the needs of all stakeholders. |
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| 1.3 | The principles for setting term dates are being consulted on to advise future procedure and date setting. The proposed principles, and associated term dates, are open to change following the consultation and will be communicated within the determination notice. |
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| 1.4 | Primary Schools and Secondary Schools provided conflicting principles for the Christmas break, however, it is the intention is to align the dates for both primary and secondary term dates based on the responses received. |
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| **2.** | **Proposed Principles for Stockport Primary School term dates** |
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| 2.1 | The Academic year to commence on the 1st Monday in September. |
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| 2.2 | Autumn half term will always be the last full week in October. |
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| 2.3 | Spring half term will always be the third full week in February. |
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| 2.4 | The Easter break to be two weeks with the bank holiday being either the beginning, middle or the end of the holiday depending on how Easter falls. |
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| 2.5 | Christmas break to be mid-week finish and a midweek return after the 1st January. |
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| 2.6 | The Whitsun (summer) half term break will be two weeks. |
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| 2.7 | Where a school is open for part of a week to pupils, this will be for a minimum of three school days (to encourage attendance). |
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| 2.8 | The five Teacher Development Days (TDD) are all to be designated by the individual school’s Governing Body. |
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| 2.9 | Schools which are used as polling stations where it is not appropriate for the school to still operate within safe guidelines. Governing Bodies should ensure that a designated in-service training day is used on these dates. |
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| **3.** | **Proposed Principles for Stockport Secondary School term dates** |
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| 3.1 | The Academic year to commence on the 1st September or the next working day. |
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| 3.2 | Autumn half term will always be the last full week in October. |
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| 3.3 | Spring half term will always be the third full week in February. |
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| 3.4 | The Easter break to be two week with the bank holiday being either the beginning, middle or the end of the holiday depending on how Easter falls. |
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| 3.5 | Christmas break to begin as near to 23rd December as possible |
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| 3.6 | The Whitsun (summer) half term break will be one week. |
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| 3.7 | Where a school is open for part of a week to pupils, this will be for a minimum of three school days (to encourage attendance). |
|  |  |
| 3.8 | The five Teacher Development Days (TDD) are all to be designated by the individual school’s Governing Body. |
|  |  |
| 3.9 | Schools which are used as polling stations where it is not appropriate for the school to still operate within safe guidelines. Governing Bodies should ensure that a designated in-service training day is used on these dates. |