



Setting the School Calendar - Guiding Principles

- 1.0 These principles are derived from a previous agreement between the following Authorities in 2012, who committed to working together to establish as far as possible common school term dates each year:

Yorkshire Authorities:

Barnsley	Leeds
Bradford	North Yorkshire
Calderdale	Rotherham
Doncaster	Sheffield
East Yorkshire	Wakefield
Hull	York
Kirklees	

North East Authorities:

Cumbria	Northumberland
Darlington	North Tyneside
Durham	Redcar/Cleveland
Gateshead	South Tyneside
Hartlepool	Stockton
Middlesbrough	Sunderland

- 2.0 The school year will consist of 195 school days. Pupils must attend on 190 of those days.

3.0 Length of terms

Terms should be of equal length and split weeks avoided or kept to a minimum. Where there are an odd number of weeks the second half term should be the shorter of the two.

4.0 Start of the School Year

The school year should start on the first Monday in September.

5.0 Autumn Half Term

The Autumn half term break should be a five day period Monday to Friday, taking into account point 3.

6.0 Christmas Break

The Christmas break should be at least 10 weekdays, and should start on the Friday which is on or prior to the 22 December. It will include the New Year's day holiday which is outside that period, and the day after New Years Day, where this is a weekday.

7.0 **February Half Term**

The February half term holiday should be a five day period Monday to Friday, taking into account point 3.

8.0 **Easter Break**

The Spring Term should end on the Friday before Good Friday. The holiday will be 10 weekdays.

This may change where it would result in exceptionally short half term(s), though such a change would be in consultation with neighbouring Local Authorities.

9.0 **Spring Bank Half Term**

The Spring Bank half term should be five days Monday to Friday from the statutory holiday which falls on the last Monday in May.

10.0 **End of the School Year**

Taking into account the above pattern, term should end on the date which achieves 195 school days of which five days should be declared as training days. The academic year should normally end on the third Friday in July.