

Public Document Pack

North Yorkshire County Council Children and Young Peoples Service - Executive Members & Corporate Director Meetings -

Tuesday, 25 May 2021 / 1.00 pm

A G E N D A

1 **Apologies for Absence**

2 **Declarations of Interest**

Items for Corporate Director decision

- 3 School Term and Holiday Dates 2022/2023 (Pages 3 - 6) (Pages 3 - 6) Presenting Officer: William Burchill

To approve the term and holiday dates for community, voluntary controlled, community special schools and maintained nursery schools for 2022/23, as set out in the calendar identified at Appendix 1.

- 4 Approved Provider List for School Locality Boards across North Yorkshire (Pages 7 - 8) (Pages 7 - 8) Presenting Officer: Martin Surtees

To approve the procurement of arrangements to support the school locality boards which includes support in relation to inclusion and school improvement across North Yorkshire.

Any Other Business

- 5 Date of future formal meetings
8 June 2021
22 June 2021
6 July 2021
3 August 2021
7 September 2021
5 October 2021
3 November 2021
7 December 2021

Circulation:

Executive Members

Janet Sanderson
Patrick Mulligan

Officer attendees

Stuart Carlton
Howard Emmett
M Sadler

Presenting Officers

William Burchill
Martin Surtees

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE

CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Tuesday 25 May 2021

School Term and Holiday Dates 2022/2023

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To brief Executive Members on responses to the proposed school term and holiday dates for 2022/23 and to seek their approval to the proposed calendar.

2.0 ISSUES AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 School employers are required to set the term dates of their school year. Employers are: the local authority in community, voluntary controlled and community special schools and maintained nursery schools; the governing body in foundation and voluntary aided schools; the academy trust in academies and Free Schools. The Education (School Day and School Year) (England) regulations 1991 require all maintained schools to educate their pupils for at least 380 sessions (190 days) in each school year. These regulations do not apply to academies and Free Schools; the academy trust is responsible for deciding the length of the school year. It is hoped that for consistency across North Yorkshire all schools will adopt the recommended term dates.
- 2.2 In addition to these teaching days each school has five professional development (PD) days for teaching staff. As in previous years the authority has proposed three of these days. The remaining two days will be identified by each school from the calendar.
- 2.3 The Local Government Association (LGA) continues to urge local authorities (LA's) to try to achieve a common approach when determining term dates. North Yorkshire County Council is part of the group of LA's across Yorkshire which has agreed a set of guiding principles the aim of which is to achieve more consistent holiday dates across local LA areas. These guiding principles were applied to the production of our proposals for consultation.
- 2.4 Currently the local authority is still required to set term and holiday dates for community schools, community special schools, voluntary controlled schools, pupil referral units and maintained nursery schools.
- 2.5 Members are reminded that it had been intended that when the Deregulation Act 2015 came into force, the education clauses would allow all schools to vary school dates. However, the provision within the Act to give the governing bodies of community, voluntary controlled, community special schools, and maintained nursery schools in England the responsibility for setting their own school term and holiday dates was not commenced. These schools have not therefore been given the power to set their own term dates.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The authority continues to propose three professional development days. The purpose of this is to continue to achieve efficiency savings by rationalising transport across the county and to make life easier for parents who have children attending different schools. It also enables greater consistency in planning for services such as transport and school meals.

4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 As noted above at paragraph 2.1, the LA currently has a duty to set dates of terms and holidays for community, voluntary controlled, community special schools and maintained nursery schools under the Education Act 2002 Section 32.

5.0 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN AND RESPONSES

- 5.1 Following discussions with other LA's and based on our agreed guidelines, a single version of a draft calendar was produced which identified 190 days when teachers are available to work and three proposed professional development (PD) days. The headteacher of each school has the discretion to determine two further PD days from the calendar. A copy of the draft calendar is at Appendix 1.

- 5.2 The consultation to determine a school calendar for 2022/23 was launched on 18 March 2021 and closed on 12 April 2021. All maintained schools and academies, teachers' associations, trade unions and other local authorities across Yorkshire and the North East were consulted.

- 5.3 The authority received only 11 online responses from the on line snap survey. These came from a mixture of both primary and secondary schools and one response from a Pupil Referral School (PRS).

- 5.4 There were no individual responses from teachers or comments from other authorities.

- 5.5 5 of the online respondents expressed their agreement with the proposed Calendar, 4 responses confirmed only their training dates and 2 schools suggested finishing at Christmas on 21 December as opposed to the suggested 19 December 2022.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS/BENEFITS

- 6.1 Many school buses and other vehicles provide a shared service to more than one school. One of the benefits of having three common PD days is that it enables transport to operate at optimum capacity and reduces the environmental impact.

7.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The draft calendar has taken account of consultation and feedback via both Schools and the draft calendar is broadly in line with proposals from our neighbouring LA's in which the majority of cross border pupils reside.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 That the term and holiday dates for community, voluntary controlled, community special schools and maintained nursery schools for 2022/23, as set out in the calendar identified at Appendix 1, be approved.

STUART CARLTON
CORPORATE DIRECTOR – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE

Report prepared by William Burchill Admissions and Transport Manager
21 April 2021

School Term and Holiday Dates

2022/23

DRAFT

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	AUGUST 2022	SEPTEMBER 2022	OCTOBER 2022	NOVEMBER 2022	DECEMBER 2022	JANUARY 2023
Monday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Tuesday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Wednesday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Thursday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Friday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Saturday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Sunday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
	FEBRUARY 2023	MARCH 2023	APRIL 2023	MAY 2023	JUNE 2023	JULY 2023
Monday	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Wednesday	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Thursday	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Friday	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Saturday	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Sunday	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30

- Bank Holiday
- School Holiday
- Professional development/training days

Pupils must be taught for a minimum of 190 days. The number of term days shown is 192.
Three recommended professional development (PD) days for teaching staff have also been highlighted; pupils will not attend school on these days.
 Schools will need to identify a further **two** PD days from the calendar. Please could you send your remaining **two** PD days to the Education Office, Harrogate via email schoolwelfare@northyorks.gov.uk when you have agreed them.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Children and Young People's Service

Meeting of the Corporate Director and Executive Members

25th May 2021

COMMISSIONING OF TARGETED SUPPORT UTILISING LOCALITY BOARD BUDGETS

1 Key purpose of the report

To seek approval from CYPS Executive to the development and procurement of an approved provider framework to support the commissioning of targeted support services. The programmes of services will be agreed with individual Locality Boards within an annual spending programme approval process.

2 Report details

- 2.1 Since September 2019, the local authority has supported the operation of five locality boards, with a view to those Boards being engaged in the development of service improvement programmes, designed to address key service challenges in their locality and deliver specific and measurable improvements in pupil and school outcomes. The scope of the activity undertaken within these programmes is in relation to School Improvement and Effectiveness, and Inclusion / High Needs.
- 2.2 The service improvement programmes are to be detailed in annual spending plans – which will be co-produced with the locality Boards. The authorisation of those spending plans resides with the respective Assistant Director and the overall governance framework is overseen by the Assistant Director (Strategic Resources).
- 2.3 The value of the annual budget across all five locality boards is £1,021,500, with the value of individual budget allocations reflecting a range of factors pertinent to the degree of school and pupil performance challenge within each locality.
- 2.4 To date, the commissioning of services has been actioned through the completion of individual Best Value assessments by service managers – but it is envisaged that there would be significant benefit from the development of an approved provider list. It is anticipated that this would secure the benefits of greater reach to potential service providers, ensure that there is equity and rigorous assessment of the allocation of individual projects / services to specific providers, and streamline the process of allocating projects to providers.
- 2.5 This report is seeking permission to initiate the development of an approved provider framework. If permission is granted, then the next stages of the developmental process will involve the development of service specifications, developing robust evaluation criteria for both accessing the framework and allocating individual projects, and engagement with service providers to maximise the reach of the framework. It is envisaged that the framework would go live in September 2021.

3 Significant risks and mitigation

- 3.1 There is significant expertise and understanding of our key performance challenges within our schools and stakeholder communities in each locality – and it will be important that the approved provider framework does not displace these organisations and effectively exclude them from a role in delivering the improvement programmes – provider engagement events will be critical in mitigating this risk.

- 3.2 In addition, some of these local providers may be relatively small in scale and there could be a risk that the business compliance elements of the service specification deter some organisations from expressing an interest – this risk will be mitigated by achieving a careful balance between our statutory need to protect the interests of the local authority, with ensuring that the information requests are appropriately streamlined.
- 3.3 The breadth of the improvement programmes will be significant, and there will be a challenge to define the service specification in sufficient detail to capture the interest of potential providers.
- 3.4 There is a risk that slippage in the roll-out of the approved provider framework will jeopardise delivery of the improvement programme – this risk will be mitigated by judicious use of the Best Value approval mechanism to progress key projects.
- 3.5 There is a risk of legal challenge if the council continues to spot purchase arrangements. This is because such action could be viewed as disaggregation to circumnavigate the rules.

4 Financial implications/benefits

As set out above the annual value of these improvement programmes is circa £1.02 million – so there is considerable scope for robust commissioning arrangements to ensure that efficiencies are generated, and that effectively the reach of the locality budgets, and its capacity to support improvements in outcomes, can be extended.

5 Legal and governance compliance

Public procurement law regulates the purchasing by public sector bodies such as the council.

The Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCRs) require public sector bodies to undertake an open, fair and transparent process when awarding contracts above a certain financial threshold.

Due to the estimated spend value, circa £1.02million per annum, the commissioning of these services is governed by the PCRs.

This requires the council to undertake a competitive process to establish an appropriate mechanism to deliver the services to support the locality boards.

The continuation of spot purchase arrangements would be seen as disaggregation of the regulations in order to circumnavigate the rules. Failure to undertake a procurement would therefore represent a risk of legal challenge to the council.

6 Recommendations

It is recommended that an approved provider framework is developed and procured to support and enable delivery of the improvement programmes associated with the locality boards.

Howard Emmett
Assistant Director (Strategic Resources)