

## Comments on the proposed school term and training days

I strongly object to the 31st January - I have always been the rule that INSET days have to link to a school holiday - the middle of the term is highly disruptive. I also object to not having a 'set' day on the first day back in September - which you clearly know all schools will want so by default you are specifying 4 of the 5 days

These dates do not make much sense? Why is there an additional holiday day on Tuesday 4th January 2028 but school stays open until the 26th July? This will have a huge impact on attendance because loads of parents won't send their children in. It also means school will only be closed for 5.5 weeks in the summer. No one wants 2.5 weeks at Christmas instead. Also as a school we will not be following the council set PD days I am afraid - they are also very random and do not fit the needs of a primary school.

Summer Term 1 is only 3 weeks 4 days, which is incredibly short. I would propose summer half term 2028 is moved back by one week to balance the Summer Term 2. (E.g. school closing on 2.6.28) Children get very fatigued in Summer Term 2 therefore it would be more logical to have a longer summer term 1 to 4 weeks 4 days and summer term 2 of 7 weeks. Thank you for considering this.

I don't agree that LA set PD days on Friday 22nd October 2027 and Monday 31st January 2028 are the best use of the time, especially Monday 31st January - it makes no sense to have it in the middle of the half term. I appreciate the first week back in January already has the Monday and Tuesday as holiday but we find training days at the start of the term much more beneficial. It is much more beneficial to have them at the start of the term (6th September 2027, 5th January 2028 and 24th April 2028) to have time for safeguarding. Our school has, for many years, arranged Training Days in a way that best supports our staff and pupils. I wanted to raise a query regarding the current placement of these days across the academic year. In particular, I am unsure why a Training Day is not scheduled at the very beginning of the academic year in September. This is a key time when a significant amount of safeguarding training must be completed by all staff, and having dedicated time at this point would be highly beneficial. Currently, the two allocated dates fall at the end of October and the end of January. While these may serve certain purposes, our school would strongly prefer a structure that better aligns with operational and training needs. Specifically: Two Training Days at the start of the academic year in September, to support safeguarding and initial preparation. One mid-year Training Day (January or February) to deliver safeguarding updates and ongoing training. Two Training Days in June which would greatly support planning, training and preparation ahead of the new academic year. The PD day for the autumn term is better on 6th Sept (not 22nd October). The PD day for the spring term is better on 5th January (not 31st January). It is more beneficial to have a training day at the start of a school term not a couple of weeks into it. The LA have never set PD days like this before.

Most of the dates appear fine. However, the training day before the October term is not practical or useful and neither is the one at the end of the academic year. They are not well placed for meaningful and impactful training to take place. I would propose that they are moved to the beginning of both the Spring and the Summer Terms.

Agree

We do not like the nominated 31st Jan training day. This, coupled with no PD day in September, and term stretching until Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th July means that school could ONLY have the option of day PD day in Sept, and one day in July...meaning that school would have to open for one day in the final week of July (which would undoubtedly affect attendance). We would like nominated PD days of Mon 6th Sept & Tuesday 25th July. We are ok with Fri 22nd Oct...but equally open to change. We would then chose our optional PD days as Tues 7th Sept and Mon 24th July.

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Agree

No, the 31st January seems not a good date for training for staff or for parents and children.

We think the break up date being so late will be detrimental to our attendance as a lot of our families are very good and only take time during holidays - but this is too late to give them time to do that and they will go that week, knowing that they would not be fined as not a full week in school - but would have big impact on our figures (and their learning). We also do not like the random TT days in terms and would rather them at the beginning of term

These are okay on the whole

I appreciate that there are 2 further training days for each school to identify, however I do feel that the proposed North Yorkshire training day of Friday 22nd October 2027 should be on Monday 6th September 2027 so that the full staff team can start the school year together and go through priorities etc. I also think that Monday 31st January 2028 for a training day is potentially tricky for parents of primary age children having a random day a few weeks after Christmas - would it not be better to have this at the start of a new term or new half term. It is also early to break up for Christmas on the 17th December - breaking up on the 21st December 2027 would enable the summer beak to start on Friday 21st July 2028 for the children and I completely understand the rationale for the fixed training dates across North Yorkshire to enable partnership work but I am struggling to understand why January 31st in particular has been chosen. It doesn't really fit in with assessments, reporting etc so rather than this date, can this date in particular not be in consideration for a training day? I agree with the holidays - but the PD days are set at Trust Level.

I think the 22nd October set PD day should be moved to 6th September. This first INSET day at the start of the academic year is crucial to deliver key safeguarding messages/training and school priority updates for the year. The 31st of January Set PD day seems very random. I would suggest moving this to the 25th July so that Leaders could then potentially use one of their allotted 2 days on the 24th July and use this as a twilight during the academic year, thus finishing the summer term on the 21st July, which I think staff and parents would greatly appreciate

Training date in January (31st) 2028 would be better on Monday 6th September 2027. More practical for training at the start of the academic year, post summer break than a random date in January.

Disagree with not having a set PD day at the start of the academic year. Disagree with the planned set INSET for 31 January - not helpful to staff or families to have an INSET in the middle of a half term. Disagree with the INSET on 26 July. Not much help in terms of delivering CPD at end of year and does not prevent children having to return that week so not much help to anyone. I think attendance will be poor in the Wk begin 3 January and Wk begin 24 of July as some families will inevitably feel these are only part weeks and use it to extend main holiday period. Understand why 31 January has to be holiday due to New Years day falling at a. Our proposed training days would be: Mon 6th Sept 2027, Tues 7th Sept 2027, Mon 24th July, Tues 25th July, Weds 26th July 2028. The suggested dates of 22nd Oct 2027 and Mon 31st Jan 2028 would be unsuitable for school and parents

We would prefer the 31/01/2027 to be the 6/09/26

Agree

In brief 22nd October PD day move to 6th September. PD day 31st January move to 4th January Remove 4th January holiday and add to 26th July PD day on 26th July move to 25th July.

22nd October and 31st January PD days are not useful for staff training. In order to ensure staff are well equipped with up to date safeguarding information, a PD is needed at the beginning of September. The suggested holiday on 4th January should be moved to 26th July, with the 25th as a PD day. In brief, PD day from 22nd October move to 6th September. PD Day from 31st January move to 4th January. Remove 4th January holiday and add to 26th July. PD Day on 26th July move to the 25th July.

Would prefer to return in September on 31st August / early September. Also, 2028 better split as 4, 6-week terms, move half term to Feb 14th and Easter to start 31st March

31st January is not a good date as it is not part of any holidays. The 6th September would be better.

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2 PD days determined by the school would be Monday 6th September 2027 and Monday 28th February 2028

It would be better to not have the set PD day on 31st Jan and move it to 4th January instead. The holiday date of 4th Jan can then be moved to 24th July and 2 set PD days for the 25th and 26th of July enabling breaking up for summer on 21st July. That leaves 1 PD day for schools to set. I think the set PD day the day before Autumn half term is a very good idea.

Although schools still have flexibility over 2 PD days, the way that the calendar has been constructed, forces school into a corner. A PD day is essential to begin the academic year. This means that in the majority of cases 6/9/27 will be taken. Having 24/7 and 25/7 as term time days at the end of the year, is also very unhelpful. If schools take 6/9/27, they can't remove both July dates as teaching days. Whilst 31/01 might be popular with some secondary schools with it being a Monday, its timing is very unhelpful from a primary school perspective. Solution: Add 6/9/27 as a training day Remove 31/01/28 as a training day Return to school on 4/1/28. Finish term on 25/07.

Unclear why the 31 January is a floating trading day as they're usually attached to a longer holiday period. I can see the January return is mid-week but this date doesn't present as a good time for cpd and I would prefer to have the option to move this one please.

There is a lack of consistency to the dates and they are not supportive from a school or parental organisation point of view. The random one days (Friday 22nd October and Monday 31st January) impact on childcare, routines and provision. Furthermore, for us as a small rural school most of our cohort will be attending Ryedale Show on the 25th July so there will be huge amounts of unauthorised absence. The absence of a PD day on return in September and January severely impacts on staff training and puts the emphasis on attending school in the holidays to organise and sort (as a rural school our pipes froze in January on return and we had to call people out to sort). Days that would support school and families would be - 6, 7 September, 5 January, 25, 26 July.

We strenuously advocate for the 22nd October PD to be CHANGED to the 6th September so any new colleagues can start with PD and also for all schools to be able to complete safeguarding training before the start of the new academic year. It also supports the new reception entrants with a 4 day week for their first week in school. We also feel strongly and advocate for the 31st January be CHANGED to the 5th of January or the 18th February, it is not conducive to our terms to have a PD slam in the middle of a short term and the Although I do agree with the term dates as they are in sync with East Riding (where my children go to school), it would be better if our school could determine our own PD training days. I would want further clarification about whether the last two days of the school term in July could be disaggregated and us still Don't agree with the proposed PD days on 22nd October and 31st January. We need PD days at the beginning of the Autumn term, no point having one 22nd October. We need PD day at the beginning of the Spring term not 31st January. They are both random dates and serve no purpose.

Why the 22nd Oct / 31st of Jan for an inset day? Oct - after a long and busy half term -staff are tired and training not as effective. 31st Jan - just a bit random In contrast the July is beneficial as training is completed after school at times so can make up for this and the day earlier finish for the Summer

My child attends school in Leeds where the Easter holidays are fixed every year - the first two full weeks in April. Because North Yorkshire doesn't do this, and the dates of the Easter holidays can have a knock on effect on the date for February half term, this would mean the second academic year in a row when I will share no school holidays with my child between Christmas and May half term. Whilst this is annoying and upsetting for me and my child, and my colleagues who are also affected, it would be financially crippling for other families e.g. those who don't work in education and have children in two neighbouring local authorities with completely different holiday dates meaning they have to pay for 6 separate weeks of childcare or use all of their annual leave.

Agree

Agree

I will propose the first two days of September (6 & 7 Sept 2027) and the day after half term (1 Nov 2027) as training days for staff as this works with our Trust calendar. We will keep the other two days to use as twilight sessions so the school year will therefore end on Friday, 21 July 2028.

We would prefer the set professional development days to be at the start of the Academic Year( 6 Sept). At the start of the New Year (5 January 2027) and the first day after the Easter holidays. The one proposed for the 31 January seems an unusual time for one. The one proposed for 26 July seems unnecessary as children could attend for the last 3 days of term rather than 2 days.

Rather than be on holiday on Tues, 4 Jan we would prefer to start the term on that date. This would mean that we could end the Summer term on Friday, 21 July (xxxx for our annual Commemoration Service and has to be booked 2 years in advance]. This would mean that 26 July would be the start of the Summer holiday and we would probably then have Mon, 24 July and Tues, 25 July as PD days [in lieu]. We would also like to consider starting on 2 Sept 2027 and if this was the case the school year would end on Fri, 21 July. Based on these decisions we will then be able to confirm our actual PD days.

The 22nd October 2027 and 31st January 2028 dates don't work for us.

Agree with most of the term dates, but we would suggest an amendment to the January training day and place this on 5th January instead. We would likely then choose our own 2 training days on 6th and 7th September.

Starting the school year with a September first day of the year training day for staff allows updates, training of key documents such as KCSiE. It is a usual training day and by not selecting this as one of the standard days it seems to be reducing genuine school 'choice' of dates. The structure of the calendar seems quite fragmented with a short two day week at the end of the school year and a training day on 31st January. It is always helpful to be able to say to families that we've positioned training days to link with school holidays so that they can access cheaper flights on a day before most schools break up. With ever increasing family budget pressures, more families seem to be taking holidays in term time. Trying to meet this need by offering other options is helpful and the 31st January date just seems a little random. This is all providing their is enough fuel for holidays to hannen in the coming months and years!  
Agree

Agree

disagree