



CHELLASTON INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOLS

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Following careful consideration of consultation feedback and wider educational factors, the Governing Body met on Monday 16th March to review the outcomes and has agreed to continue with a term structure that includes a **two-week October half term and a five-week summer holiday**. In the interests of transparency, this decision was made by the parent and community governors, and school staff who are also members of the Governing Body were not involved in the discussions or decision-making.

This decision has been guided by:

- The majority of respondents chose the holiday pattern (52%)
- Strong staff feedback regarding wellbeing and reduced autumn fatigue
- Evidence suggesting shorter summer breaks can reduce learning loss
- The benefits of more evenly spaced breaks across the academic year

We recognise that some families and staff will have preferred the traditional six-week summer holiday, particularly where children attend different schools. Governors carefully considered alignment and childcare implications before reaching this decision. The calendar dates will take into account the Derby City dates and align as closely as possible to September and July, placing INSET days carefully to minimise disruption.

We understand that some members of the community may still wish to share their views, and any further feedback can be directed to the Governing Body rather than school leadership. As the consultation process has now concluded, the decision will not be revisited; however, all feedback is appreciated and will continue to inform future considerations.

We are committed to maintaining long-term stability in the calendar to support forward planning for families. Thank you for engaging constructively in the consultation process.

Updated school calendars will be available on the website by the end of the week.

Kind regards,

The Governing Body



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Parent Q&A Sheet – Term Date Decision

Why was this decision made?

Governors reviewed consultation responses from parents and staff, educational considerations, wellbeing factors, alignment with local schools and childcare logistics before reaching a decision.

Was parent feedback considered?

Yes. All consultation feedback was reviewed in detail. The decision reflects a balance of educational, community and practical considerations.

Why don't all local schools have the same term dates?

Academies and maintained schools can set their own term dates. While alignment is desirable, schools are not legally required to follow identical calendars.

Will this change again next year?

Governors aim to provide stability once a structure is agreed. Any future review would involve consultation.

What about childcare concerns?

Governors recognise the challenges faced by working families. Childcare logistics were a key part of decision-making discussions.

How does this benefit children?

The structure aims to balance rest, routine, wellbeing and learning continuity across the academic year.

Were staff views taken into account?

Yes. Staff wellbeing and retention are important considerations, particularly in maintaining high-quality teaching.

Can INSET days be adjusted?

INSET days are scheduled within the statutory 195-day framework. Where possible, the school will consider placement carefully to minimise disruption.