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20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our recent consultation regarding the proposal to introduce a two-week October half term break. We received over 700 responses from families across the Trust, and we are grateful for the time taken to share your views. The outcome showed that more than 60% of parents were supportive of the proposed change.

Alongside this support, some parents raised important concerns. These mainly related to childcare during a longer October break and questions about whether an additional week might need to be added at the end of the school year. All concerns were carefully considered and shared with our Trustees to ensure they were fully informed when making their decision. Following the consultation, the proposal was presented to the Trust Board on Monday 16th March, where Trustees formally approved the change. As a result, from the next academic year (2026 to 2027) our term dates will include a two-week half term break in October.

We would like to reassure you that all pupils will continue to receive their full entitlement of 190 school days. For the next academic year, the school year will run from 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026 to 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2027. The two-week October break does not reduce the number of days children are in school, and a full breakdown of term dates is provided below.

Teachers are contracted and paid to work 195 days each year. This includes 5 INSET days for staff training, planning, and professional development. From next year onwards, these INSET days will no longer be scheduled within the school year. Instead, they will be taken entirely outside of the pupil term dates listed below. This ensures that INSET days do not affect the 190 days allocated for pupils.

Thank you once again for taking part in the consultation and for your continued support. Working in partnership with our families helps us make decisions that reflect our community's views and promote the wellbeing of both pupils and staff.



Term dates that the children will attend school

| <b>Term dates</b>  | <b>Number of days</b> |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Autumn term</b>   |                       |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2026 to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2026   | 33 days               |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2026 to Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2026  | 35 days               |
| <b>Spring Term</b>   |                       |
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2027 to Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2027   | 30 days               |
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2027 to Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2027  | 24 days               |
| <b>Summer Term</b>   |                       |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2027 to Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2027<br>(excluding Bank Holiday Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup> May) | 34 days               |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2027 to Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2027  | 34 days               |

Yours sincerely,



Amarjit Cheema  
CEO