

Summary of the responses to the consultation for the proposed term dates for 2025/2026 for community and voluntary controlled schools

On 15 January 2024 the following interested parties were notified of the consultation:

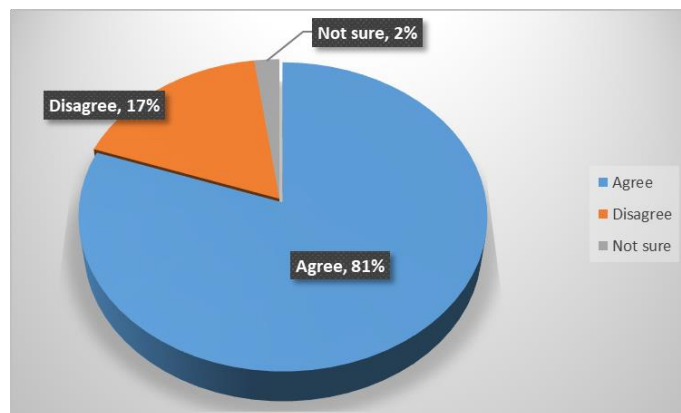
- All schools in Milton Keynes (via Heads Up)
- Local ward councillors (via Councillors News)
- School Governors (via Heads Up)
- Constituency MPs
- Neighbouring local authorities
- CoE Diocesan Board of Education and NORES, Parish Centre Holy Ghost Catholic Church
- Trade unions

The consultation was also available on the council's website, alongside an electronic response form and respondents were asked to state whether they agreed with the proposed term dates for the 2025/26 academic year.

The consultation closed on 25 February 2024

A total of 49 responses were received

80% agreed with the proposed term dates, 18% disagreed and 2% were unsure



Key themes and concerns raised in support of the proposed term dates:

Theme	No. of respondents
Term dates should be aligned for all schools in Milton Keynes and with neighbouring authorities to reduce impact on families with children in different schools and childcare costs	3
Concern that the first half of the Autumn term is eight weeks	1
Beneficial to have the Easter bank holidays in the middle of the Easter break	1

Key themes and concerns raised not in support of proposed term dates or not sure:

Theme	No. of respondents
Terms are not evenly spread and concern that the first half of the Autumn term is eight weeks followed by a seven week term leading up to Christmas	3
Concern that Central Bedfordshire Council/Buckinghamshire Council have not published their 2025/26 term dates and parents and teaching staff need them to be in line with MKCC. This will ensure that childcare issues are kept to a minimum	3
Concern that Christian Orthodox Easter cannot be celebrated as the Easter holiday would need to be extended by two days to enable family celebration	1
Milton Keynes should adopt the model of a two week break at half terms	2
Milton Keynes should have different half term breaks from other areas	1
Two week Easter holiday is difficult in terms of childcare	1

Who responded to the consultation?		Agree with proposal	Disagree with proposal	Not sure
Parent/carer	24	17	6	1
Staff member at an MK school	23	20	3	0
Other local authority	1	1	0	0
Other (NHS)	1	1	0	0