

## **Question: Do you prefer that the school Easter Break includes the Easter Weekend?**

Answer: Yes

Comments:

- It allows families time to prepare for Easter in a more peaceful way.
- Another weekend break would be disruptive and would impact on parents trying to use their holiday allocation effectively, to provide a long family break,
- Again it ties in with mainland friends.
- To be able to spend it with family who may have to work over Christmas
- as previously commented the 2 key issues is that the new holiday is outside of mainland school holiday times to make use of cheaper prices and 2nd that there is a better chance of hot weather. still think Easter is too soon so later holiday best but this is preferable to Oct or Feb half terms
- This allows for family celebrations - the UK is still predominantly Christian. It is also a good time of year for holidays or working on home projects. Less disruptive to learning in there is not an extended weekend as well as the holiday. Union conferences often happen at Easter and run over 5 days. Practising teachers would be excluded if Easter were not part of the main holiday.
- Family time important
- Works well for many families if these bank holidays are incorporated - less of their own annual leave to use.
- Definitely many parents will get the bank holidays off, so can go away and save a couple of days holiday for later in the year.
- A Christian country should recognise, respect and uphold the Easter weekend and makes sense to keep it with the main holiday
- Easter allows you to have long break for a short amount of leave.
- Currently at lanesend there is an extra week in half term where all the development days lie, this works well.
- Isn't that the point of Easter? A lot of families have holidays at this time of year to celebrate it with their extended family. Also, the bank holiday may fall on a time when the learners have been off for a period, then at school for a reduced timetable, to be off again.
- Again as a full time working single parent the bank holiday weekend is "guaranteed" leave for me to take quality time with my child
- Yes, otherwise I will have to find childcare for extra bank holiday days as well as the school holiday
- To tie up with siblings in other Las
- I'd prefer to be in line with the mainland
- I think Easter holidays should include the Easter weekend - that's the reason we have it!
- It's only 2 days, set the rest of the time when you like!
- Of course it should include Easter
- What's with breaking tradition? Too much change.
- Yes - purely based on working parents not having to use so much annual leave
- I think this works well for many working parents and relatives

- More school days would be lost due to bank holidays if not included in the holiday
- Many working parents will be able to take a few days added on to the Easter weekend
- It can be difficult to find child care at weekends and holidays so the fewer holidays the better
- Again would make it harder for working parents
- This is better for working parent's
- I work and it is very difficult to get child care, I would prefer to spend that weekend with my kids on their waster break
- If not we would still expect to have Good Friday and the bank holiday Monday as holidays, this would impact on school development days
- The Easter break allows couples to have a longer weekend together and plan holidays together around this
- Families can spend some time together when they are off work and school together.
- It is much easier to juggle work commitments (which requires me to travel at that time of year) and childcare if the school Easter Break includes the Easter Weekend. We also use this break as an opportunity to visit family on the mainland and so it helps if the school holidays align with those on the mainland. Easter is also an important religious festival for us.
- Keeping the holiday in line with Easter allows families with children in other areas of the country to meet up for joint holidays and celebrations
- Easter is an important time to spend time with families not on the Island
- This helps with childcare arrangements as my husband and I are off work alleviating some requirement for childcare
- With the bank holidays it works better.
- Many parents have bank holiday off and so do not need to find extra childcare
- It is important to include the Easter break because of religious observances .
- Easter is Easter! Some working parents will get bank holidays. This makes it easier to manage leave and childcare. Those who do have to work Bank holidays will have not significant difference to their childcare arrangements if the holidays are moved outside of Easter.
- Like Christmas it is an important festive event in the Christian calendar and I feel time to enjoy and celebrate this as a family is important.
- it makes more sense to have the bank holidays within the break
- These extra 'free' days enable holidays for those working to be increased (therefore not having to use so much of their personal leave). I don't think it matters where in the Easter Holiday that the 2 days falls (ie. beginning, middle, end).
- Let's stick to 2 weeks at Easter without separating from the Public holiday.
- Yes, otherwise we will lose 2 more days of this break elsewhere.
- Allows families to benefit from 4 dy weekend together along with Easter break
- It is better for parents who have the bank holidays off to take less annual leave to make up a longer holiday
- it allows teachres to have time off when their not teaching friends also have a long weekend.
- Visiting relatives in other parts of the country who stick to the normal Easter Break
- Easter has always changed the date each year. I don't see the need to take away the importance of this religious holiday.
- Extra time for pupil with working families

- A few years ago, we trialled a Bank holiday (Easter) weekend separate from the so-called Spring Holiday and the outcome was, in my recollection, very
- Disruptive to have two bank holidays and an Easter break
- This method works well on the mainland.
- That's like the best bit about the Easter break is having a Monday and realising there is no school
- Of course! I'm a working parent and I use bank holidays to look after my children.
- Because it is called Easter break
- You have to have Easter weekend in Easter break because it's Easter and it's called the Easter break, so why would we have Easter holidays without Easter.
- It wouldn't count as 'Easter holidays' if it didn't include Easter
- YES WE GET MORE TIME OFF DUH
- Yes then we will have more time of school
- I would like to have 3 weeks off for Easter so people can see their family more
- Yes because you can have a break after Easter which would be more fun and relaxing.
- This makes it easier for family holidays as partners not working in education don't have to use as much leave if bank holiday is involved.
- It would require parents taking more holiday at work to have the bank holidays outside of the school holidays
- Make sure both bank holidays are in the two weeks. Not have Good Friday, the week before like this year
- It's Easter! Of course that should include Good Friday and Easter Monday.
- Many workers not in education have a long weekend over Easter so it should be a family time even if religious beliefs are not relevant.
- Why on earth would you set the Easter break at any other time than Easter???
- Should ideally be week either side of Easter Weekend then only eight days lost from school (or work for parents) and not nine or ten as in other options.
- This clearly gives less holiday for students and make it possible to have more time in school and just to have two weeks off for Easter.
- Of course it needs to include this weekend
- As some consider it as a religious symbol of Christianity
- because we should have holidays off
- Otherwise it's not Easter holidays
- because then what is the point in it
- Means working parent safe can have longer off by bolting on bank holidays to their annual leave
- It helps that there is already 2 days that you would have off work that you don't have to get childcare for.
- It is called Easter Break. It would feel inappropriate to decouple the break from its namesake holiday.
- Easter is a religious holiday
- Makes more sense

- The least disruption to learning weeks is essential. Instances whereby students return to school and four days later have a bank holiday should be avoided where possible. This is a disruption to continuous education and destabilising for the classroom.
- It makes sense for the holidays to include the bank holidays, for both people who work and teaching staff who have children.
- Due to work it is hard to arrange extra child care much better to include easter weekend during the school holiday
- Just leave school holidays as they are!
- Surely that's why it's called the Easter break!
- Easter holidays should celebrate Easter
- Yes that's what makes it Easter holidays
- Other members of the family are off then

**Question: Do you prefer that the school Easter Break includes the Easter Weekend?**

Answer: No

Comments:

- I am in favour of fixing the holiday to even the length of the terms. If Easter falls outside this, so be it as it means yet another bank holiday to look forward to and another chance to take a break and an odd extra day is easier to accommodate than weeks on end.
- This would work for some years to give the term break at a different time to Easter and hence a bonus for those wanting more holidays away.
- The long weekend is welcomed by teachers! It also allows for school residential trips to be run, without running into school holidays or missing two days of teaching.
- Moving Easter break to reflect a religious holiday often means a very long start to the year for children. More level schooling would be better.
- It would be better to have terms of similar length
- Separate would be cheaper for holidays
- It's nice to have those extra days off work, if it's included in school holiday I don't get them.
- I think it is better to set the holiday as sometimes the term length is very short making the next very long.
- Even out the term length
- I thought it was always the first two weeks of April already
- This would be much better and make it easier to have a more even term
- I've said no because I would hope to have more chance of finding a cheaper holiday if it wasn't around Easter weekend as that's when most schools are off.
- Would like Easter set so that term times are evenly established. Perhaps a word upstairs!
- Easter weekend is a desperate holiday entitled to all so the actual school Easter break should be desperate.
- Spread the terms out more fairly. Keep the bank holidays.

- Term time should be based on the needs of the education system not a dwindling religious festival
- It needs to fit with what is most conducive to learning, very short terms are difficult to plan teaching and learning for
- The bank holidays separate would be good.
- What would be the point in having an Easter holiday outside of Easter? I fundamentally disagree with this proposal.
- Unless religious, it's not necessary. Easter falls on a Sunday so nobody will be affected by Easter itself. Would be better if the break was outside this holiday to allow parents to book the usual term time holidays
- Spread the half terms to make them equal, however I guess this would then be shorter!
- As Good Friday and Easter Monday are bank holidays anyway I don't feel they need to fall within the school "Easter" holiday if it means terms either side are left unbalanced.
- As Easter weekend is a given anyway doesn't need to be included in the weeks off.
- I think it's unnecessary to timetable the terms around Easter- it often makes for some very uneven term lengths, which is of no benefit to anyone, especially pupils.
- This would extend time off of school.
- It would be better to set the weeks between each half term to gain a set amount of teaching time each half term
- It seems silly to have unequal half terms. The holidays should be mid term regardless of when Easter is.
- This just extends the summer term finishing date as these two days (Good Friday & Easter Monday) have to be taught in the summer. Again doesn't help exam prep.
- Ferry prices are prohibitive during Easter weekend.
- I would prefer to have the Easter weekend break separate to the Easter holidays
- Due to religious beliefs
- Chaos for those working with other countries who have similar holidays. Already regional issues.
- Having Easter weekend out of the holidays spreads family time and gives teachers their bank holidays back.
- Working parents need to balance six weeks of leave into 13 weeks of school holidays, the bank holidays are essential to maintain the equilibrium
- Not including the Easter weekend means more consistency.
- I feel the Easter holidays should be regulated for education purposes.
- Easter weekend is a religious holiday so need not be longer than Good Friday to Easter Monday. By including it in the Spring school holiday you make term
- Always expensive time for holidays and we would still benefit from bank holidays outside of the half term break
- I personally think that 2 days off is enough for a small refresh then the holiday won't be far away
- Although preferable, it is far more important to have regular terms. This will alleviate the exhausting, long summer term and enable far better teaching and assessment
- Decoupling from Easter will allow the possibility of much cheaper holidays due to the offsetting from the centralised term times.

- we need term times that make the best of learning
- A fixed easter holiday sounds like a great idea.
- The Easter Break should be fixed, terms should be a fix length not governed by a minorities religious views
- It would be fantastic to move the Easter break away from actual Easter, we could finally afford to take a family holiday when the weather is good. This is a brilliant option for the modern & diverse world we live in today.
- prices for holidays over the bank holiday weeks are increased as the tourist industry has to cash in on these weeks
- i think it would be better to have it separate
- It is better for schools if the terms are even regardless of when Easter is.

**Question: Do you prefer that the school Easter Break includes the Easter Weekend?**

Answer: I don't mind

Comments:

- as long as the observance of the weekend is still reflected ( children do not go to school and staff do not teach
- Is there a way that the summer holiday could be reduced by a week to add onto the Easter break to make it 3 weeks? The weather is likely to be better, and there is more chance for parents to benefit from cheaper holidays.
- It worked ok a few years ago
- When Easter is very close to May you end up losing a lot of Monday lessons in the close run up to the exams due to bank holidays.
- I would prefer more balanced terms. I find the term that is 5 weeks too short.
- I would prefer the break to be set so the half terms in school are equal numbers of weeks - eg 6 and 6 rather than 7 and 5.
- Makes no difference - balanced half terms and a long weekend would be fine. When I taught in USA this was the pattern and it worked fine.
- I don't think that Easter has to be attached to the school holidays. However, if it isn't, there is an issue with families taking that time for holidays anyway as it will be bank holidays for working parents.
- Including the weekend (Even at either end) would make managing work leave easier as a block.
- As our family are not particularly religious we would not consider it a priority to have the Easter weekend as part of the holidays.
- I don't mind as long as it isn't too long. Two week half term is certainly too long. I'm happy with the current holiday arrangement.
- This makes more sense as you get more time off with you children when you should
- I would ask that it matches the mainland so i can see my family.
- As long as the half terms are equal length. Some years it might fit with Easter, some years it might not. Equal length half terms is the recipe for happy teachers and happy kids.

- better for cheaper holidays as long as other schools don't follow suit
- Prefer even weeks either side of break
- I think that setting Easter would be an excellent idea, in order to even out the lengths of the terms either side of it.
- Holidays would be cheaper if Easter was outside the school holidays but how will the extra bank holidays be accounted for within each option?
- It makes no difference, however if flying abroad as a family, we could potentially have cheaper holidays if the break was outside mainstream and mainland schooling and we wouldn't have to take the kids out of school to afford this.
- As long as all schools are the same as have children in different schools and my husband is a teacher
- Difficult to always include the Easter weekend as it always moves. Creating equal terms would be more beneficial to families
- Depends on date of Easter. Similar length terms are better rather than ensuring Easter is the holiday
- Better to have a fixed pattern, with it not mattering whether Easter falls inside or out of it.
- It would be useful to have the school working terms set more evenly to optimize learning and planning over the school year
- As long as the holiday is the same length and doesn't unbalance the length of half terms too much it doesn't really matter.
- The two week break should be set to provide a balanced term-time, ie the same number of weeks for each half-term.
- moving the school holiday away from Easter weekend makes family holidays more affordable.
- would prefer the term lengths are set evenly rather than fitting it round easter
- As long as this doesn't result in very unbalanced lengths of terms.
- The main priority should be equal term lengths that do not exceed 7 weeks, with 6 being preferable although obviously not always possible. 8 or more is too long for young children.
- I just don't like having the same holidays as everywhere else so might be better if it didn't
- Doesn't matter as the number of teaching hours are predetermined, so it's neither an advantage or disadvantage that there are Bank holidays within this timing
- I think it would be far better to balance the length of terms and have 2 weeks off which doesn't always fit in with the Easter weekend to avoid over tiredness of both children and teachers. The Easter dates are set, it would be very easy to plan term times in advance.
- As long as time is able to be spent with friends and family I don't think it matters when the school holiday is
- Whichever fits best to make even term lengths.
- As long as the bank holidays still remain it doesn't affect Christian celebrations and traditions so school holidays don't need to be based around it. A holiday that creates even(ish) number of weeks each term is more important and beneficial.
- Easter as a religious observance for Christians is protected by the Bank holidays connected with this. Therefore in my opinion the holiday in this term should be referred to as the Spring holidays so that there is no longer that perceived connection with the religious

observation. By removing the link this enables the term to be split more evenly which helps as it is already a shorter term.

- No preference
- If parents are not religious, it doesn't matter where the half terms fall as long as they are spread evenly
- I would prefer it was set according to term length regardless of the Easter weekend.
- Most important is a need to even up the length of terms
- By not including the Easter weekend more flexibility is given to parents wishing to take their children on holiday. However, schools would still need to be closed for the bank holiday weekend for religious observation.
- Would prefer the Easter holidays to split the term more evenly rather than be governed by Easter bank hol.
- This is a whole bank holiday for the UK it doesn't matter if it falls in school holidays or not
- Surely as a bank holiday - Easter would not be a working time. Therefore would reduce school days.
- If you set the Easter break without Easter you could put the extra week there
- It can be disruptive to the flow of the term if it is separate to the holiday- it is better during it at one end of the holiday
- We are no longer a country with a Christian majority. There would still be bank holidays for those that wanted to practise their faith.
- Because then we have Easter during it.
- Would be happy if it were to create a more evenly spread of weeks per term.
- a fixed Easter holiday that may or may not include the bank holiday would immeasurably help schools with planning as term lengths would be roughly consistent year on year
- JUST LEAVE IT!!
- Having a slightly longer spring term to keep the summer term shorter would be preferable.
- Having Easter later in April would be beneficial in terms of the amount of children activities that are on offer in the late spring summer months. On the otherhand for parents who work having the Easter bank holiday weekend within the school holidays shortens the amount of child care time needed and enables a full week family holiday without using a full 5 days of holiday allowance
- Equal term lengths would be best
- Doesn't really matter seeing as Easter half term is completely different every year. Sometimes it's in April and others in March
- April is a good time for a family holiday, if it didn't include Easter weekend the cost would be much cheaper
- I think if it meant that students and their families could have a chance to go abroad for cheaper it wouldn't matter whether a religious holiday aligned with those dates.
- This would offer an extra few days break during term time, but it's the autumn and winter terms that are too long.
- Doesn't really matter
- As a practising Christian, this holiday is very important to me and very busy with church activities
- I am much more relaxed about this holiday.



- It makes sense to keep a stable annual schedule rather than move it with the Easter dates.
- So long as Good Friday is observed as a holiday, I have no objection to this. I practice Christian observance.
- see previous comments
- If the holiday doesn't include the bank holiday weekend , that'll give me more time with my children. They would have an additional 2 days on top of the Easter
- More uniform term lengths are easier to plan for.
- I think Easter holiday because of religious reasons is archaic anyway.

### **Do you agree with shortening the school summer holidays to establish a two week half term break?**

Answers: Yes

Comments:

- Shortening the summer break will help parents who struggle to fund suitable child care and employers who struggle to manage with staff members absent over the busy summer period. A longer Autumn/Spring break will enable those wishing to go away for a week to do so without overlapping into term time as often travel to and from a destination may not coincide with weekends. An even length of term of approximately 6 weeks will help pupils not to become over tired, especially with dark days and early starts. Learning is also improved with shorter, regular bursts as performance dwindles over prolonged periods. A shorter break in summer will reduce boredom and reduce the lag in learning when first returning to school after a long layoff. My preferred option would be to request the exam boards adopt a similar approach giving those taking GCSE's and A-levels a decent break between exams, whether pupils choose to revise or relax and give children the benefit of the better weather found locally towards the end of May/beginning of June. May be the Island can teach the rest of the country something in time?
- The autumn break should be bought forward to weeks 2 and 3 in October. There is no point in having the break at the existing time because holiday charges will still be high. If the point of the exercise is for cheaper holidays then the break needs to be at different times to the rest of England. I would start the Autumn term one week earlier, directly after the bank holiday although I expect then you would get moans from those who hold events during that last week. Whatever you do, there will be an impact on the various carnivals at either end of the summer break. You can't win!!!
- I would still want to see Easter iweekend reflected in a holiday period either as a stand alone weekend or in a half term /end of term break
- As a teacher, a two-week half term break in the Autumn would be welcome given how long this term is. 8 weeks of school between half term and the Christmas break is definitely too long, especially as daylight hours are getting shorter and children always find that November drags.

- The children are always tired in the lead up to Oct half term and xmas due to the length of the terms. In addition, due to child care cost through the summer I don't break even./ Several of my friends are unable to work through the summer due to costs.
- It will be much better for pupils as six weeks is too long for information retention. Also it may help with attendance as there would be additional opportunity to book a break in October.
- It would be best to increase the Autumn half term break as the weather is normally still good then.
- I see no reason to extend the spring half term, as this term is already short. Furthermore, this period of time is particularly important in terms of revision in the run up to GCSE exams.
- The. Last term of the year (June to July) should be as short as possible. Students are unable to concentrate at that time of the year.
- for EYFS the autumn term is a very long introduction to school life, the 2 week break there would help the youngest children.
- This is a good idea as 6 weeks is too long and the first Autumn term is also too long
- Many children do not even pick up a book over the summer and, in schools, we always discuss the 'summer dip' that occurs over 6 weeks. Balancing up the half terms would work better for planning and a longer break in October could allow for holidays and perhaps stop children and staff being so exhausted by the start of December when there is still a lot of learning to do in class!
- If this happens then ALL schools including academies should agree on this otherwise it will cause havoc for parents trying to balance work and holidays across primary and secondary school
- This would only work if all schools change as I have 3 kids in 3 schools. Would not be happy if they have different holidays.
- From working in a primary school, I believe that the transition back into school can be difficult after such a long period of being out of a routine. The term
- Communication through all schools so that time is taken over the same dates
- As a parent I feel that the terms should have an equal number of weeks. As I've witnessed in my own child the exhaustion experienced & loss of attention in longer terms. Longer holidays loss of routine & remembering lessons. Free up teachers time rehashing topics learnt before as children forgotten after long holiday & less dealing with exhausted teachers & pupils during longer terms. Equal term weeks runs a natural cycle of recuperation & work. Might also help prevent large amounts of absentees during certain times if the year when germs are more easily spread.
- Will greatly help with childcare but only if the whole island adopts the proposal

- Summer term can be very long so it would only be feasible to shorten by one week. The autumn term is far too long for staff and pupils especially those in reception. 2 week half term would be ideal.
- Reducing by one week is a good idea I think. It's still a nice period of time off and I don't think that one week would be missed very much.
- Every year my daughter finds the Autumn term tiring and she always gets ill as so tired. The summer holiday is a long break and 1 week less would be fine.
- I think it's a great idea. 6 weeks off is too long. The weather is also better in October than February and it's ties in with some of the other schools which would make things easier for parents who have children in Primary and secondary
- This would provide much more even terms & make managing leave at work easier.
- I think it is better to finish at the same time in July but return to school earlier.
- The summer holidays (6 weeks) are too long and children's progress often slips back after so long away from school.
- I think this would work best lengthening the October half term as this is a long term for staff and the children.
- The Autumn term is long and children get very tired and ill. It would also enable families to go away without being penalised.
- I believe the decision should be made independently of any cost savings with travel companies as they are likely to change their prices to match in the future.
- the preference would have been the summer half term to take advantage of holiday deals. with this not being possible because of exams then shifting summer holiday by 2 weeks would allow start early or into Sept.
- Ensure both primary and secondary do the same
- I feel this is the better option, reducing the length of a long autumn term.
- The children and their learning need regular length terms so that a bigger impact to progress can be maintained.
- Would prefer the two week holiday on the May half term
- Needs to be considered as children and school staff need shorter terms....8week term is way too long!
- Option to have long weekends instead with Friday or Monday or both off
- It would be better for the spring term to be the longer term so as much preparation as possible could be done for any pending assessments

- Teachers and pupils cannot cope with 9 weeks in Summer 2. Parents will take holiday in that time. The half terms need to be as even as possible therefore
- All the schools need to do it as I have 1 going to high school.
- As long as education does not suffer either one of October or February would be fine as long as we know in advance to arrange childcare
- considering that a majority of jobs on the Island are seasonal and work is scarce through the winter. it is difficult taking children on holiday A : cost of flights
- I think it would be better just to have a shorter summer and maybe use the weeks in a different way. Maybe keep these for when the parents want to take the children out of school if the parents can't have the same holidays. The school/parents could then keep a log as to how much holiday they have had
- I would prefer October because in general the weather is better and there are more opportunities to get outdoors. We could get snowed in for two weeks in February which would be very tedious!!
- I would prefer not to have to work 9 weeks without a break before the summer holidays - not good for the children either.
- Excellent idea - the Autumn term is extremely long and both teachers and pupils are exhausted by it. A shorter summer holidays allows less time for pupils to forget what they learned!
- I am only in favour of shortening the summer holidays if the two week half term holiday is in October. If it is to be February, I am not in favour of it. The Autumn Terms are far too long for both children and staff, whereas the spring ones can already be quite short, so do not need to be shorter.
- The Summer break needs to be at least 5 weeks duration to accommodate the administrative & practical tasks teaching staff are required to undertake - e.g. transition meetings, data analysis, moving classrooms, planning & preparing for changing year groups, etc. - and to enable sufficient time for a proper break.
- Will help reduce child care costs over the summer holidays
- May time
- I would also support a three week Christmas break by taking another week off the summer holiday. I would be happy with a four week summer break.
- terms should not be longer than 6 max 7 weeks its too long
- As long as the holidays are the same in every school, I work in a school and my daughter attends a different school.
- I think reducing the summer holidays is a good idea. For me personally I wouldn't mind which holiday the time was added onto

- Though a good idea to shorten the summer holiday, parents are still not going to benefit greatly from cheaper summer holidays as the term dates will remain largely the same as those of other schools in other counties.
- Any shorting of the summer would help us as a family due to both parents working full time jobs
- Great idea For families wishing to fly abroad as it will be cheaper and more flexibility than mainland school holidays. Childcare for six weeks summer holidays is difficult. I'm also a children's activity sports coach and this idea would strengthen my business, especially at Christmas and spring.
- I hope all schools would have the same holidays
- It would give us an opportunity to take a family holiday
- I think it is a very good idea but prefer option 2
- do it
- Although the proposal is, in theory, a good idea, for those of us working in the tourism industry it would be better to allow a short term time holiday.
- It may allow people who work in education to be able to go on holiday for a reasonable price!!
- Great idea
- June week would be better
- February is often too cold/ icy to enjoy as many outdoor activities.....autumn is a perfect time for nature walks, foraging, watching and learning about the seasons. For a single (hard) working mother the summer holiday is far too long and the cost of childcare in that month is back breaking. Although not paying less holiday club time, it does at least allow the costs to be spread across more months, therefore making it more affordable.
- I feel that this option is better than having two weeks spring half term because of several reasons - many holiday parks, attractions in the UK stay open until Autumn half term allowing families to get away, whereas many don't reopen until the end of March or Easter - plus the UK weather is often more favourable in the autumn.
- The Autumn term is a very long term and would benefit from being shortened.
- An excellent idea.
- I think it would be a positive move for students and families. Students are more likely to retain learning, they also do not cope well with the long summer break. The very long Autumn Term would be better with a longer break.

- This would give a break in what is generally the most difficult term for staff and students, and is generally the term when illnesses spread through schools because people are so tired due to the term length and demands.
- Definitely shorten and spread the holidays. Bear in mind those families which struggle with the unstructured holidays whom have children who depend on the timetable and routine of school. Holidays can be quite the opposite for these families.
- Spring half term means better weather and a chance to get away. By shortening the summer term, it also means cheaper holidays for everyone.
- I think reducing the summer break will enable Students with additional needs and their families/carers to maintain strategies for positive behaviour plans.
- This is a great idea, as all the children struggle with either starting school, or moving up a year. So by extending the October half term, this would give them more chance to relax, and also shorten the current long half term (8 weeks this year) until Christmas. This half term is always tiring, as the days are shorter, children have activities at school, and just generally this time of the year is exhausting for many.
- I think it is a very good idea
- A 2 week half term break in February instead of October would be madness as hardly any Isle of Wight attractions for children are open. October half term would Be much more favourable
- I think that it would be beneficial for the children to enjoy the warmer weather and not be at home during the colder months.
- I think it is a really good idea. The autumn term is always very long and staff and children are tired, which means they do not perform to their potential, any illnesses take hold as everyone is run down and by the end of term behaviour can also be an issue because of tired irritable children.
- Use the alteration to ensure a minimum of 5 weeks and a maximum of 7 weeks is adhered to for any single half-term stretch. Consider aiming in the future for both autumn and spring to have 2 week half-term breaks. The ultimate would be a model of 6 half-terms of 6-7 weeks totalling 38 weeks, with 2 weeks breaks in the three half-terms, 2 weeks at Christmas and Easter, and a 4 week Summer. Exams can take place and be supervised in part of a school holiday.
- I think that the current system with a 6 week long summer holiday is too long a period for children to be out of school. Children get out of the routine of daily reading and writing activities.
- Either would be good
- I think an extra week should be added to the start of the Christmas holidays instead of them finishing three days before Christmas Day. There is more to do with the children as a family at this time of year than in October or February.

- The children get very tired in the long Autumn term so making it shorter with a 2 week break would help.
- I think it would help work / life balance for teachers but do not think it will address issues of term time holidays as I am sure that holiday firms will just increase prices for 2 weeks instead of 1 !!!
- Shortened to 5 weeks and then a 2 week October half-term would be good. I think that everyone would benefit from two weeks in October as the settling in during the first half-term is always tiring and it would benefit both staff and children.
- This will work better for all working parents. The monopoly with the bus contract should not determine the best way forwards. Shorter terms with regular breaks are proven to be better for teaching staff wellbeing as well a student wellbeing and attainment.
- Easier for working parents with a shorter summer holiday. The longer break allows parents with seasonal work to get away for a holiday out of season.
- It's my second option I'd much rather have the 4week summer holiday but this change is better than no change!
- Working parents will struggle with child care if they are unable to take the additional week off work.
- Many private schools already do this in the Autumn term, in recognition of how long it is for pupils and staff. It is already tried and tested.
- I feel that this would be a better proposal for holiday and working time periods to suit all needs and requirements all round.
- I work in a school and also have a daughter in high school. The cost of taking a holiday during term time is currently prohibitive.
- I feel it's more beneficial to have a longer break at half term for the children. Summer is too long a time off.
- Make the extra week a different week to when the rest of the uk is off to keep holiday costs down.
- Whatever is decided I feel that six weeks in the summer is too long. For parents who work in can be difficult. If the school holidays were different to the rest of the uk it could possibly reduce absence by parents not taking holidays in term time
- No
- Would rather have 3 week Christmas break
- I would welcome this, as it will give more flexibility to parents wishing to take an annual holiday.

- This would help lower earning families afford a holiday. It would also help with childcare arrangements over the summer.
- Summer holidays are too long for children and childcare is costly for working parents. Holiday costs are high in the summer. An extended half term would enable affordable holidays abroad as prices would be lower.
- I like the idea of breaking up the long autumn term. Agree that the summer holiday is too long currently.
- I think shortening the summer holidays will make it easier for working parents with childcare arrangements.
- It could benefit parents and would certainly benefit children by lessening the break from learning.
- Think schools should finish earlier in July and return mid August - weather better - children ready for it. So have 2 week spring break.
- The winter term is currently too long, a two week break would be welcome!
- The Autumn term is currently too long, a two week break would be welcomed!
- Shorten it by two weeks and extend both autumn and spring half terms by one week.
- I think it would be a good idea purely from a perspective of opening up opportunity for cheaper holidays.
- In my opinion, it is better to have the two weeks half term break in late October because the weather is better than in February. February is a very cool month so people can not enjoy it.
- For key stage one this would make a huge difference, at the moment two seven week terms is too much for them.
- Only shorten the long autumn term, the spring term is short enough and is used to prepare for Sats as the pupils are well settled into new classes and ready to learn.
- Shorten the summer break by one week not 2 weeks.
- Great idea. My children are almost always poorly over Christmas due to being exhausted from the long term. Colder wetter weather means they are cooped up in classrooms.
- The autumn term is too long. Children are tired, there are so many bugs doing the rounds. My children have spent the whole Christmas break being poorly. They were absolutely exhausted in December with all the nativity productions and other things going on.
- The October half term is flanked by an 8 and 7 or sometimes 8 and 9 week term. That is unbearable for staff and students. The February half term should remain 1 week as 5 weeks in January and then 4.5 into March is only just enough time to cover a scheme of work.



- The Autumn Term is usually very long and pupils, especially those in Reception and KS1 find it exhausting. Teaching time would be more effective in this part of the year with a two week half term break and therefore slightly shorter half term in school. As a family, we would find it easier to book an affordable holiday at this time of the year.
- The worst option is having a 9 week half term in the final half term. Anyone who works with pupils know that they cannot cope with the length of the term and quality of learning is lost as behaviour gets worse.
- As a businessman who employees student staff during the Summer holidays ANY shortening of the summer break would need to be taken from then END of the existing 6 weeks or risk leaving business without Summer student staff during one of the busiest times of year when the mainland (and private) schools have broken up. Loosing the last week would not be too much of a problem however. Gaining an extra week at half term for family holidays would certainly outweigh the negative.
- I think shortening the summer holidays as it is more realistic for the rest of life and will make life easier for working parents
- Although I'm happy with the current arrangement, if it was to change I feel that the two week half term break would be most beneficial in the long autumn term, which is tiring for both children and staff
- I don't think option 2 is a good idea as it will be extremely tiring for teachers and children. As a teacher, with the growing expectations and stress we have during the term, the 4 week holiday will not give us enough time to recoup and be ready for the following year. As a parent, my child struggles towards the end of each half term anyway as again the expectations of them are getting higher and higher. Being overly tired can mean some children, and adults, become poorly so this will mean more absence anyway.
- Current Autumn term is too long for both students and teachers, hence learning time is lost.
- If the summer holiday is to be shortened to allow a two week half term, this break would be best suited to the late October half term. This allows a more paced introduction into the new school year and helps ease children back into things in the early part of the year where lessons are more introductory and less of the exam preparations take place.
- October half term is usually when we book a holiday as we find it more affordable than the Summer so having an extra week would help us to have some well needed family time.
- A 9 week half term as suggested in one option is too long for staff or pupils. However reducing the summer break by 1 week to 5 instead of 6 would be workable.
- I love the idea
- To put this in place all island school and pre schools would need to at the same time. I feel by extending the holidays it will push holiday prices up further. We work full time and always take out holidays in the six weeks holiday as it is the only way we can guarantee time together as a family. I would not to be able to go away if school holiday failed to marry up.

- As a teacher or a child a 9 week or 8 week term that were proposed is ridiculous with the standards and level of work expected from teachers and children for that length of time.
- A June half term 2 week break would be better
- The autumn term is very long for children and teachers. 5 weeks in the summer is still enough but allows for a more realistic autumn term.
- I feel that a two week half term break in the spring term is a better option given that Spring is likely to have better weather than Autumn, thus allowing children time outdoors. As for reducing the summer holiday through this I feel that it allows a more consistent pattern between weeks at school / on holiday. Too long a summer holiday can allow for boredom to set in and difficulty adjusting back into a routine when term starts.
- Why can't you extend the may half term instead of Feb or Oct half term , holiday companies will only bump the prices up during these holidays as well,
- Great idea to help those who have several children to consider for childcare and financial needs.
- i think the summer break is to long and can cause problems for working parents trying to arrange child care
- The children become especially tired in the long term between october half term and christmas break and it could benefit them having it broken up, also the summer holidays at nearly 7 weeks sees them totally over restless and bored come the end of it
- For us personally October is when we go away so to have a longer time limit may make it easier for us and not have to take my children out of school.
- Better for working parents/childcare and for school staff to be able to book a cheaper holiday abroad
- My children are in yr and y1. Also I previously worked as a teacher. A longer half term week would be very beneficial. All the children are exhausted at both the autumn and spring half terms, but especially the autumn one.
- would make the Autumn term much more bearable for both teachers and pupils!
- Long haul holidays to tropical climates would be more suited to extending the February break.
- 6 weeks is too long as the children forget what they have learnt
- October is better as will allow parents to take advantage of holiday abroad.
- I would not want the summer holidays to be reduced to below 5 weeks
- The 6 week holiday is a huge strain on many working parents and is too large a gap in learning for many children especially those in foundation/early years.

- The Autumn term is always so long, it is very difficult for all children (they are exhausted by Christmas) let alone the new reception intake. Also, with our tourist driven community, many families cannot have time together over the summer so a shorter Autumn term with a longer break would allow them this. I should like to see the week taken from the July end of the holidays to avoid lengthening the Autumn term any more.
- Kids at school are so tired at Christmas, get ill and don't enjoy Xmas
- The council should look at the island free school set up as far as holidays go as it works well.
- It is helpful for working parents especially those who work in the public sector. I am a nurse and it is extremely difficult to secure any more than one week off in the summer holidays two weeks if you are really lucky. Due to the high volume of staff within the organisation and also to ensure there is good staffing levels to look after the patients. By moving a week out of peak season it allows parents to try and book more affordable family holidays.
- Coming at it from a working parents point of view. The six week summer holiday break has always been so hard to cover care for the children and time at work if holiday leave wasn't an option. Shortening this summer break is a great idea I believe.
- having experienced this system of dividing up the school holidays - I am greatly in favour of it. I would further welcome greater independence if LA control for schools to determine their own holiday regime - including a longer school day for secondary to allow longer half term breaks in both autumn and summer terms.
- Teachers cannot take time off other than allocated school holidays. Many teachers enjoy skiing and winter sports but can only really go over Christmas and February which is not ideal.
- Get on with it !
- The children have far too long off for the summer holidays and carrying a week over to the spring or autumn half term would mean less time out of school in one block and make it more flexible for working parents.
- As a teacher, the first term between September and December is often a difficult one for both staff and students. It is usually the longest term and has a noticeable effect on tiredness and performance - therefore a two week half term would make a big difference.
- The Summer holiday is very long and the children get lairy by the end waiting to go back to school so a shorter holiday would be good. Two weeks in October would allow parents and teachers and support staff extra time to go away and rest in the run up to a very busy Christmas period.
- The Autumn term tends to be longest and therefore most in need of breaking up
- Increase May half term to two weeks.
- I think it's an excellent idea!

- Current plan is for 7 weeks of school, 2 weeks off followed by 7 weeks of school. Why not 5 weeks of school, 1 week holiday, 5 weeks of school, 1 week holiday, 5 weeks of school? Advantage would be European destinations are still hot. Alternative to reducing summer holiday is to have a 1 week Easter break. Advantage would be more time before exams for revision prep.
- I personally think the summer holidays are too long, and shortening them to provide alternate weeks with a holiday term would be beneficial to both the students and parents. Summer holidays, whilst lovely for weather, can be limiting financially. Not only due to activities but in terms of going on holiday. Alternating term breaks would be amazing as it would provide many more families with the opportunities to take their children on holiday without the financial struggle. Not only that, but some children struggle with the 6/7 week holiday. It is a long time to be away from the routine which some children thrive on. Taking them out of routine can be distributive.
- I don't think there is a loss of learning within the summer holidays, it's great to have all that family time. As a parent of younger children however, the Autumn
- October to December is always a term plagued with bugs and illness. A two week break would give the children a chance to recharge.
- I think it is a good idea but the 2 week break should be in October. The alternative means a very long term for the children. Also it should improve attendance as it allows families to take an autumn holiday. Most families would not wish to take a family holiday in February.
- Don't do it unless all schools on the Island are committed to the project. Having different term dates at different schools could make this situation much worse for parents. Stop issuing bloody penalty notices for term time holidays where kids have otherwise excellent attendance
- I agree, that the summer could be made shorter and the October half term made longer as the Autumn Term is very long usually especially for the children just starting school. This would also give the opportunity for families who struggle going on holiday during the holidays a chance to go for the week that would be different to other counties and hence be a cheaper price. I do not agree however with it being in February.
- My overall preference would be option 2 however I would prefer option 1 to no change at all. I believe a 6 week summer holiday is too long. The children get bored and it is such a challenge to arrange child care when both parents work.
- Might make finding holidays a bit cheaper but only if other authorities don't do the same.
- The first term back after a long summer holiday is very hard on my children, I think a 6 week term (rather than 7) with a 2 week October half term is much more sensible. Ideally all terms should be 6 weeks.
- A 6 week break in the summer is too long for children. They struggle to get back into school routine, so shortening it by a week would be beneficial. Introducing a two week break during the first Autumn term would allow children a longer rest period in that first full term when they are still adjusting to being at school before they get into the full swing of things.

- Agree to shorten it but not to have the extra week October or February. Why can't it be a warmer time of year to have an extra week off. October would be crazy just to settle back into new year group then have two weeks off.
- If changed to two weeks in the autumn term it would give an opportunity to recharge and come back prepared for a long term
- The Autumn term is far too long, fatigue of staff and students impacts on student progress and attendance of both.
- It's a very long autumn term especially when younger children tend to get poorly and very tired.
- good idea to even out term lengths
- As long as all schools are engaged no. Having children at different schools with different holidays would be a logistical nightmare with childcare
- Two weeks at May half term would be preferable
- Good idea
- i think a two week break in spring would be better as it is still mildly hot whereas autumn it would be cold and wet
- because it will be cheaper to go in autumn
- Winter term is a long one and I think the two week half term would be perfect to give the children a longer break so that they aren't so exhausted at the end of the full term
- Good idea
- The winter can be bleak, 2 weeks in February would break winter up and allow people rest.
- I think this is a fabulous idea. Our weather tends to be that the good weather is June- July so have more time off here would be better
- I would not like to reduce the summer holidays
- The longer break in Autumn avoids any 8 week terms which are long and stressful for pupils and staff.
- Two weeks in May would break the very long summer term better
- Shared Autumn & Spring term?
- There should be no extra weeks holidays only shorten the summer holiday When they leave school no one gets 14 weeks off a year it teaches children nothing about the real world.
- extend in July rather than return earlier in sept.

- Appendix 1a would be preferable as 6/7 week terms are king enough. I work in a year one class and by the end of a 7/8 week term the children are exhausted which can lead to bad behaviour and not learning. With regards to a shorter summer holiday the children tend to go backwards and so giving them 5 week holiday the children can get back to learning.
- The autumn term is such a long one ... having two week break evens up all the halves of term (approx 7 wk blocks)
- I just think the summer holidays should be shorter even the kids want to go back before they do as they get bored etc longer days in school would be better to give them more education start a lil later so fully awake but finish around 5 instead, kids need all the help they can these days and it will help them later on down the line! Maybe later day actually doing hands on work like a skill they can use in life not just paper work I.e mechanics,engineering,accounts,childcare, hairdressing actual jobs etc experience is always better I personally think and schools don't do enough of it.
- Look at how the free school manage their holidays..... good idea!!
- Would the June half term for primary schools work?
- A shorter summer holiday would be beneficial.
- Autumn term would be best for the children educationally, whereas spring term would be best for booking of family holidays.
- Helpful to people that work in tourism, as they cannot take time off in summer.
- Summer holidays are too long and stressful for parents.
- I think this is a great idea!
- Either Autumn or Spring would work for our family.
- As a teacher the Autumn term is really important to get the class moving and working hard therefore I don't believe it will be beneficial for an October 2 week half term whereas a February two week break would be great although my concerns would be if the term was a short term like this Spring term is therefore breaking away from the Easter two weeks would be beneficial to even out the terms and not be dictated by the religious weekend
- I'd like to see you stop thinking you own our children and stop fining good honest parents for giving their children the best holiday they can afford and spending time with their children. You took a good man to court and wasted a hell of a lot of tax payers money for what??? to prove a ridiculous point!!!!!! There's people on the streets could of used that legal fee money, a shortage of doctors or even donate it to cancer research instead of frittering away money on your ego!!! You should be bloody well ashamed of yourselves??????????
- I think that a two week half term in Autumn seems to be the most sensible proposal as it keeps the weeks in school consistent. To shorten the summer holiday by one week I think is acceptable, but not by two.

- I would actually shorten the summer holiday by 2 weeks (half a week at the end and a week and a half at the beginning) and lengthen the autumn and spring half term
- I think this is a good idea, and could another consideration be the Easter break being extended?
- able to still go on holiday with this time
- I mean if it was me I wouldn't make an extra holiday I would maybe extend the winter break as it is a little short.
- ye bruv it would be gud because autumn is a better time for holidays bruh and they are cheapah aswel and we get longer holidays init
- aye gov fam I need some more time away from ma scewl to do mah tings bruv
- The Autumn term is too long for students and I feel learning would improve with a two week break in October
- this proposal is put in place to allow families to holiday but the times of year you are suggesting are both out of season times of the year. Most people are wanting a sunny break within season.
- It's an excellent idea and long overdue as the six week summer holiday was originally devised so that children could help pick fruit and work on the land on the many farms that existed in Victorian Britain!
- Excellent idea - IF THE TRAVEL AGENTS DONT INCREASE THEIR PRICES once they get wind of the proposed scheme.
- Summer holidays are too Long, it would enable working parents to access cheaper alternatives for holidays outside of the expensive holiday periods.
- I think its a great idea to combat tiredness all round in that long first term and also to allow families some flexibility with holidays outside of the 'standard' school term.
- I think it would give a longer break for staff during a tiring, long term and combat some loss of learning that occurs during the longer break. However, I feel that loss of learning will still occur as the Summer holiday is still very long under the new proposals. It may encourage parents to go on holiday during holiday time and so improve attendance throughout the year.
- Our business rely on the summer season on the island. If our children have an extra week during the half terms, this will benefit us so much. We will have more time to take them on holiday, without the need to request extra school days off.
- It's the best idea Cllr Chris Whitehouse has ever had
- Would allow us to go on holiday Or start the summer holidays a week later and start back a week later in September

- i think it is good idea shorten summer holidays as 6 weeks is to long. it also unfair on parents who work as they are not permitted to take 6 weeks off at once. i think having the 2 weeks half term is better way of holidays or the extra week at christmas as spilts it up bit. also not all parents can afford to do things with kids everyday in 6 weeks as every thing costs so much to do.
- This option creates a set of balanced, half-terms that are not to long for children.
- Long overdue
- long half terms during these months are too exhausting for primary children. Lots of tiredness and illness.
- Extending the term in late October seems unnecessary due to the fact that the kids have just had a long summer holiday. Therefore I would support the late February as the better option. As a working parent it will always be hard to find childcare in the holidays, however the thought of avoiding excessive holiday charges if you wish to go away by going outside of the standard holiday dates is appealing.
- I always find the summer holidays a bit too long, my choice would be to extend the Autumn term because the run up to Christmas is rather hectic and the children get very tired.
- It provides more time for relaxation at the start of the year, a time to absorb more information.
- This would enable families to take holidays outside of peak times.
- i think the summer holidays should be shortened further, and have TWO two week breaks - both in Spring AND Autumn term.
- Reduce the 'summer dip' to some extent and hopefully relieve some of the sickness around Autumn term 2, given the length of term and activities taking place
- As a teacher of examination subjects this option is in the best interests of our students and is a model already used successfully in some mainland schools.
- By having a longer half term will help us to book a holiday as it will be cheaper.
- This suggestion keeps the half terms at a more similar length.
- I would prefer a 6 weeks summer holiday but 5 weeks and 2 weeks in Feb would be ok..
- Excellent idea. Children really exhausted by the long Autumn Term and very long summer break is difficult for working parents
- I believe that come February the children would really benefit from a 2 week holiday as they are tired after the Christmas period. I also feel that 6 weeks is just too long in the summer and the children need to get back into a routine of learning.



- It is easier to get child care for 4 weeks rather than the 6 weeks we have at the moment, especially where a lot of work is seasonal on the island.
- Great idea. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.
- Summer break should be shorter
- A longer autumn break would be more beneficial for teachers than an extended spring break. This is because the workload in September and October is more dense e.g. creating teacher folders, learning people names and establishing new tracking systems. Personally I feel that a longer Easter term would have a negative impact on exam results. When students return from Christmas break they generally have a more mature attitude towards exam preparation whereas an additional break may affect that level of motivation and focus.
- Shorter length of Half Term is better for all concerned. On a micro level, we all have short attention spans so on a macro level would it make sense to have many short half terms to give teachers and students more breaks? E.G. option 1A, but 3 Autumn terms of 4 weeks, 5 weeks and 5 weeks.
- It appears to even out the terms a bit more, which is important given how tired the children get, particularly leading up to Christmas. We still need a longer summer holiday so that the children get a big block of time to recover and recharge ready for a new school year, and it allows for a longer holiday away somewhere that otherwise wouldn't be practical in only four weeks
- February is too close to the start of the year, October sees teachers flagging.
- The ferry companies and holiday/ travel companies will still charge extra regardless of when holidays move to. It should go back to having holiday request forms and using school discretion for up to 10 days off during the year.
- At present it is so costly to go on holiday in the current holiday periods that the majority of families are missing out on valuable quality family time. The only alternative families have is to otherwise go in term time. The fines that are now being imposed are immoral and it is unknown to me where the money is spent. As a child we had a one week caravan holiday in June which my mother saved up for all year. This holiday was invaluable to our whole family, my mother could not have afforded to go in the summer break or pay fines for taking 4 children out of school. Myself and my husband went on holiday in Oct 2017 and 2016 for a reasonable price, there is more choice of holiday destinations available in October than in February.
- 9 weeks is too long for a term option 1b allows for a more even split. Shortening the summer holidays will help working parents budget for expensive summer childcare. It will also benefit the children as they will have less time off so their learning should not suffer as much.
- My son has autism and struggles with the change of routine, one week
- It would make the planning of holiday childcare easier for some parents and may help reduce the costs of holidays taken.

- Will it make much difference regarding the cost of holidays? Some times, some of the mainland schools finish a week before us anyway and the holiday companies still nail us for the price of a holiday. I think the summer hols is too long and believe the shortening of the summer break a good idea.
- it would be great to have 2 weeks towards the summer months to allow for uk holidays enjoying the weather as not all families can afford to go abroad. Maybe look to moving the May half term to mid to late June and having 2 weeks? whilst starting the Summer holidays at the beginning of August.
- In my opinion a 2 week break in October would be better than one in February for 2 reasons; 1) the weather is generally better and 2) attractions such as Robin Hill are still open. For these two reason it would be easier to keep the children entertained in the autumn than in the spring. I also believe that the children would benefit from a longer break in the autumn term rather than the spring term as they seem to get more tired during this term.
- What about extending the May holiday to two weeks?
- You should have 2 weeks at all of the half term holidays except the summer half term.
- The summer holidays are too long for parents to find child care. We often have good weather during the October half term so it would be ideal to be Crenshaw that school holiday.
- the summer 1 week half term should be either 2 or 3weeks long
- I agree with shortening the summer in favour of longer half terms, I prefer option B but if not then option A
- I think it's a good idea but prefer option 2 where summer holidays are shortened by 2 weeks. I feel 6 weeks is too long. I have worked as a teacher and witness the loss of learning that occurs.
- I think it's best to add the extra week to the spring half term when our weather is better.
- Honestly it's because it may mean we can take the children on holiday in the holidays without needing to remortgage the house!
- It's a great idea in principle, and anything that helps make memories is a good thing. My only concern is that holiday companies will just jump on those new dates and the prices will increase eventually too.
- The Autumn term in particular is very long & tiring-a 2 week break in the middle would give enough time for a proper rest & still allow time for a weeks family holiday. Six weeks in the summer is unnecessarily long-pupils forget so much & time is wasted in school recapping previously taught lessons.
- 5 weeks is still a nice long summer break and if the extra week in October?nov weather can still be nice (better than february) and will give people still chance to get outside and do things, also the clocks havent gone back yet

- a much better idea, from our experience the summer holiday is always too long and the children regress slightly with regards to their education. Also with the autumn half term being very long all my children are exhausted by Christmas. They are often exhausted for xmas or catching bugs and illnesses as a result as they are run down and tired
- Would also like a 2 week Feb half term too.
- As a teacher it would be beneficial to have an extra week in October, as you will have met your class and got to know them but will then be able to use that extra time to plan more effectively having got to know the children. I always find I have loads of resources to make and things to do to the class room in that half term once I have met the class. The autumn term is also incredibly long and tiring so an extra week would lessen the number of people absent with sickness.
- I would prefer a shorter summer holiday (4wks) and add one week to autumn break and one to spring break.
- As long as this is done to mitigate the exhaustive effect of the winter term, then it is a good reason. Financial or political reasons should not really be a part of this.
- It will help maintain my employment
- Good idea.

**Do you agree with shortening the school summer holidays to establish a two week half term break?**

Answer: No

Comments:

- Keep the holidays as they are, there is nothing to be gained, as it will make child care more complicated if anyone has more than one child. Holiday companies will only alter their policy so they do not lose out on money
- More research needs to be undertaken around the council's statement 'learning is lost through the long 6 week break'. In fact there has been much research to the contrary. Children may forget but when they come back to a concept for the 2nd, 3rd time etc that's when learning starts to embed and a long rest and recoup is as good as or better for children to come back ready to learn. ( More sport programmes/ physical activity experiences and outdoor programs is proven to improve children's learning, concentration and mental health - banging on at them is not the answer). What impact will this have on island children's mental health? We won't know until we've used the islands children as guinea pigs! ( private schools have longer holidays/ better resting/family time/3 times the amount of sport and continuous outdoor activity programmes- needless to say better results- why does Theresa May want private schools to lead state school establishments?) And I suppose the teaching staff, huge numbers which are on Prozac and the like, just to enable them to cope with the

current workload and children with semh, social emotional mental health, will just have to keep calm and carry on until they pop. Furthermore, teachers have children/ teenagers in other schools on the island, including private schools and schools on the mainland. As holidays won't match, families and children with a parent, who's a teacher, will suffer more relationship issues, family work/life balance. As it is, these families/children already suffer from having a parent who's a teacher- it is expected as a given, from schools that teachers number one priority should be their school and school life before their family and own children- ? !

- ALL school on the island would have to have the same term dates not just council ones!
- We live on a fantastic Holiday Island and cherish it. Why go anywhere else when it's on your doorstep. We spend our summer holidays here camping. Can't do that in Autumn as camp site closed! We have friends that we have met on the Island beaches over the years, they now holiday with their families on the Island every year. Change the holidays we will not be able to mirror time.
- THE SUMMER HOLIDAY SHOULD REMAIN AT THE PRESENT LENGTH. THE LONG SUMMER BREAK ENABLES WORKING PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO ARRANGE THEIR HOLIDAYS TO HAVE THE BEST CHANCE OF ARRANGING A BREAK WITH THEIR CHILDREN.
- 2 weeks of wet, windy weather is a no no. The one week break at this time of year is bad enough, unless the council is going to invest in indoor activities on the island?
- If you are entertaining your children on the island during these times nothing will be open. To take advantage of cheap holidays at these times you will have to travel further afield to get the heat. The only gain is the council's heating bills!!
- A shorter summer holiday would make it harder to have family holidays. Longer holidays in October, November or February would be useless for family
- The summer is a time when parents and families get to spend time with children doing fun things without having the stress of homework and rushing to timetables. Don't take it away.
- I don't think this should happen. The current arrangements continue to work well
- I think shortening the summer break will cause multiple problems. Like it or not we are an Island which benefits from tourism, many of our young people need the holiday to earn money for university. Schools need time to process exam results, enroll students in to 6th form and the summer holidays are actually a busy time. As a teacher it takes me several weeks to recover from a grueling school year and then I start work again at least 3 weeks before returning in September. If we are recruiting new teachers from off the Island changing the holiday dates could be detrimental to recruitment.
- Extending any of the breaks would impact GCSE and A level groups. Teachers wouldn't really get these breaks as they would in all likelihood be running revision sessions in Oct half term and Coursework or intervention workshops in February. The summer holidays, after exams allows teaching staff a few weeks break before GCSE and A level results are published and we are required to start work again. This isn't about cheaper holidays but trying to retain some sort of work life balance at a time when more and more is demanded of each teacher as budget cuts take hold.
- People are voting in favour of this ridiculous idea under the false impression that it will cheapen holidays. Ridiculous. How are you going to compensate teachers for their time? We already give over a significant amount of holiday time, all year for planning and preparation,

this will create a new, unnecessary pinch point in learning. There is nothing wrong with the system in place.

- It is not a good idea.
- Question 4 - neither. Leave it as it is. Teachers are overworked enough without removing the 6 week break - most of which is spent by teachers coming into work and doing extra just to keep afloat. Support the teacher unions in challenging the ridiculous workload expected from teachers by government and leave the holidays alone. Challenge government instead to write into law a measure to prevent travel companies charging extra during the school holidays.
- I think young children need 6 weeks off in the summer when the weather is better. Teachers need 6 weeks as some of this is not holiday but preparing for the following year. Primary teachers have classrooms to set up.
- I do not see the value of extending half term at a time of year when the weather is cold and wet and reducing Summer holidays. Like most teachers I work approximately 50% of all my holidays making the 6 week summer break the only time I get any significant rest and family time.
- Schools in the north west have a 2 week whitsun 1/2 term - doesn't seem to affect their exams!!! Better time of yr to do longer holiday.
- I believe the way the term time is now is perfectly fine as otherwise we could have a term which is up to 10 or 9 weeks long.
- I'm all for shortening the summer break as a working parent, but see no advantage to having a longer holiday in October or February, nothing is open it's usually cold and wet, unless your planning an abroad holiday I think children would be bored being off and parents would find it hard to keep them occupied, so I think just take 2 weeks off summer hols and leave it at that.
- Could we have an extra week at xmas and ny instead??
- Most people go abroad for a summer holiday for the weather and for economic reasons are often restricted to Europe. Late October is the end of the season in most of Southern Europe and the weather is as unpredictable as in the UK. If you did this you would be funnelling even more summer traffic into an even shorter space of time.
- As a teacher the longer summer break enables time to organise for the forthcoming term whilst still enjoying a break. The spring term is often quite short and adding an extra weeks break onto this would be detrimental to the continuity of the childrens learning. An October break could be beneficial as this term is often quite long. Personally though, I feel both the children and teachers need, and look forward to the longer summer break. It would also be difficult to ensure all island schools were following the same pattern of breaks, especially as many children change school over the terms.
- question 4 is asking you to choose between the Devil and the dark blue sea. I don't want an extended half term at all!
- I am not in agreement with shortening the summer holiday
- It's not the worst idea in the world but the bulk of coursework is completed in the first 2/3 of the year and it will make this harder.

- As much as a six week stretch is a challenge for parents, people have handled it for many years. Why is it a binary two week half term option? Both of the suggested options interrupt the flow. Why not a longer Christmas break?
- I think this is a terrible idea.
- I would prefer a 2 week break during the may half term
- Yes, I think it is an absolutely ridiculous idea. The whole drive about kids being obese and not getting out enough so you are reducing the time off they have in good weather and adding an extra week or two in the cold weather when they cannot get out as much! Also through the summer months when the temperatures rise, the children do not want to be at school in the heat. I think this is a terrible idea and I do not support it in anyway.
- Living on an island which is driven by tourism, to shorten the summer holiday would seem bizarre and not in keeping with the rest of the country. We are geographically isolated as it is, to make us more so but setting ourselves apart from the rest of the country is not helpful nor does it promote a sense of cohesion across the Local Authority which is now run by HAMPSHIRE. I'm not convinced that changing the school holidays will avoid any of the natural rhythm of changes in Easter dates and indeed, if Easter were no longer attached to a school holiday, the council would find that families would still continue to holiday around the Easter dates due to normal work patterns involving bank holidays. I am certainly not convinced of the argument that families will have the opportunity to seek cheaper holidays and won't be inclined to take holidays during term time - I'm afraid that here on the island there seems to be an attitude that families are entitled to a break which is, of course, a very privileged attitude vocalised by those with the income to take family holidays abroad. Yes, the autumn term is exhausting for children and staff. I know. I've been teaching for over 15 years but it is also a crucially important term where we get to know our children in school well and they are set up for the rest of the year with secure understanding of assessment. To allow a 2 week break in the middle of this crucial time would be misguided.
- Reservations re children having just settled in to school routine and then having 2 week break, if Autumn. February is often poor weather and would impact on preparations for exams.
- 1. Shortening the summer holidays by a week will not reduce the learning children lose over 6 weeks. 2. A 9 -week half term is absolutely ridiculous to even consider! Children are exhausted by week 6 and teachers are too! Summer 2 is the one of the hardest ones because the children are tired and everyone had enough, so please don't make it longer than the 7 painful week it already is. 3. I spend 2 solid weeks of my summer holidays preparing for the following year, as do most teachers. If it's reduced to 4 weeks we won't even get a chance to switch off completely before we have to start again.
- A teacher's job is incredibly stressful. They work throughout all non teaching days, planning, preparing, marking etc. Teachers need to have the summer to recharge their batteries. You take this time away from teaching staff and more will leave the profession or be off work with stress. Teachers have families too and it is during the summer that they are able to remember that they are a husband /wife, father /mother not just a teacher. Being a teacher is all consuming and time is needed to rest and restore energy. Please leave the holiday dates alone.

- This is not viable as it would break into the term & cause too much disruption in learning - most children would have to spend the first week back trying to remember what they'd learned in the first part of the term. Totally untenable.
- A long holiday in the summer provides both students and pupils with time to recuperate and recharge for the next school year. Extended time to explore other activities away from the rules and regulations of school life can often provide meaningful learning experiences and these would not occur without the time to fully develop. A two week half term would not make significant difference to the school year whilst a shorter summer break would only have a negative impact in my view.
- If you did shorten summer hols in July before prices really rise in Europe, we will not be able to go away with friends on the mainland and will cost more. However, we do normally take our child out of school in Feb to ski, so there may be some benefit. Can we not shift the Easter break? Possibly holiday companies already hike prices up as mainland schools stagger their hols already. If you are just helping families go on holiday. why not give back a discretionary week off...much easier and I know LAs do this on the mainland, surely this is less disruptive in the long run, stop criminalising parents.
- As a teacher of nearly 20 years I do not believe that removing a child for a holiday in term time does lasting damage. It should be down to the professional judgement of the child's head teachers discretion if they allow the holiday. The holiday system works fine as it is now.
- It's definitely inappropriate as this will put a lot of pressure on parents with full time job. Having two week half term break means I have to stop working for that period as I don't have any other family member to look after my child and would result in loss of income.
- The only half term break I would like to be longer is the summer one when the weather is likely to be better. Due to examinations this is not possible. I have no choice on when to take my holidays but unless one has enough money to travel a long way away then February and October are not the months one would choose. For the many teacher and parents on the Island who would not be able to go away on holiday at those times it shortens their break in a beautiful place with many beaches etc. when the weather is likely to be pleasant and lengthens their break at times when it is likely to be cold, wet or both. Furthermore, the spring and autumn half terms usually occur over two different weeks nationwide, meaning that the likelihood of getting a cheap holiday then are pretty low - as both weeks are classed as school holiday weeks by holiday companies.
- I would only choose autumn term because this term is generally longer. However neither time is good for extra holiday and island residents would not benefit from cheaper holidays. The ferry companies will instantly respond by hiking their prices as they always do for school holidays. The long summer break is essential for recovery after a long year and in particular a long second half of term which is always the case in the summer. A shorter summer holiday gives even less flexibility for holidays away and a longer half term generates learning loss just when pupils have got back into the school routine again.
- This idea is nuts, we live in an amazing part of the country which is at its best in the summer! Let the kids get outside and enjoy it, an extra week in winter (Feb) or autumn (Oct) is about as much use as a chocolate teapot!!! Use your brains and think about the growing issues of getting kids outside, the summer is the best time to do this!

- Other than skiing, there is nowhere to go on holiday in February. There is a similar problem with October. As a family we holiday in Spain or France. Both of these countries are too cold at the end of October and in February. As Spain, France and Europe are the main holiday destinations for British people, this proposal will not enable people to holiday at alternative times. What will happen is more people will truant in July in the week that they should have had off. This change will also affect families that holiday together with family on the mainland. Family on the mainland will have different holidays which will make visiting difficult.
- Don't think it's a good idea it's been like this for years why change it
- Pointless, why change things that have always been, you already put so much pressure on kids from such a young age they deserve a decent break from school to just be kids
- My son lives with my Ex in the mainland and this would ruin our family hols in the summer
- It will make it harder for us to meet mainland family in the summer as their holidays will be the same as they are now.
- Our sone attended 6th Form on the mainland. We would then have difficulty taking holidays as a family. Also for people with family in other parts of the UK this would not match up. Working in the hospital it would make it harder to get annual leave in the summer with my family if there was only a 4-5 week window in which everyone would want to take annual leave with their children. Added to this is the inflexibility of the IOW council to allow families to take their children on holiday outside of the "designated holidays" deemed allowed by the council. Please do not change the holidays.
- As the council have very limited input into the senior schools the majoroty of holidays in these schools would not change. This would mean that child care for those who work in schools or have children across primary and secondary where the dates have changed, would be very difficult.
- One week off the summer holidays is not going to reduce the amount the children forget over the holidays, so in my opinion it's pointless to do this for that reason. Also, travel companies/airlines have a window of more than a week for when their prices are increased to ensure they catch as many travellers in that period as they can.
- I am not in favour of changing school holidays for the isle of wight as I work in a role which i have selected because it has the same calebswe as my son's school, enabling me to care for him in all school holiday periods. As a line parent who wants to spend as much time as possible with my child I am opposed to these changes as they will force me to place him into childcare.
- I would support a week shorter in summer if the extra week was added to spring half term (June)
- I think the summer should remain the same length as it is, giving the children extra time off in October when the weather is colder and parents have to work to earn money post summer and ready for Christmas puts a lot of pressure on families with child care, equally a two week break end of Feb and then again at Easter puts a lot of pressure on parents.
- IF the summer holiday is shortened I would support the idea that the Autumn half term be the one extended. I do NOT support the idea that the summer holiday should be anything less than 5 weeks.



- I disagree that the summer holiday is 'too long'; as teachers, we require a significant amount of respite time as well as preparation time for a new academic year that currently only the 6 week break can provide. Who wants to holiday in the poorer weather? The summer is really the most viable to allow a semblance of work/life balance to be restored.
- Please remember that for working parents in a business environment that business do not have a half term holiday, even harder is to have a two week half term. Also when in business it is very hard to have time off if other in other businesses are at work. It is very easy to have holidays in Christmas, Easter and Summer as the rest of Europe also is on holiday at this time. It easy to take time away when others are working, Note: Businesses do NOT stop for half term.
- Leave well alone. The holiday firms will notice and just further extend their period of peak pricing.
- Holiday in a cold season??????
- It is a ridiculous idea, obviously formulated by the assumption that there might be some benefit. Consult with health and education professionals, NOT parents set to lose a week's free childcare,
- I can understand the reasoning behind it as the children are very tired in that first term of School and could do with the 2 week break I'm sure. I think shortening the summer holiday by 1 week is acceptable. But two weeks is way too much. Teachers wouldn't get a proper break. They spend so much of their time in school in the summer sorting out classrooms etc. That it wouldn't be fair on them.
- I cant see the point of changing anything. It would not be beneficial at all. I know doing this would mean less children being taken out of school for holidays but the companies concerned will amend their prices accordingly. So no one wins effectively.
- People do not want extra holiday at this time of year as the weather is unpredictable and entertaining children will be very expensive.
- It will not be beneficial to the learners to have knew on either half term. They will have 5 weeks (on average) worth of input, then 2 weeks to forget it, before coming back for assessments based on the input in the first half of the term. Plus, most Yr 11 and some Yr 10 pupils have GCSE mocks in November and March, which are important to grade the learners current working level and any topic that the tutor may need to recover. Having longer half terms will limit he amount of information retained by the learner, and put more pressure on them. It will also give less time for the tutor to recover tricky topics, before examinations start.
- Don't do it
- Children need a proper break in the summer. Six weeks allows time for relaxation, adventure & learning & is essential for split families.
- I do not agree as this extended two week half term is ok if you can afford to fly off on a foreign holiday for some sun but if you can't then you are stuck at home in the cold and usually rain at those times of year at least with 6 weeks in summer you have more chance of fantastic weather to spend as a family.
- I don't understand the point of it. Wouldn't help people out that work in the health care sector as school holidays are already rediculouly hard to get off. I'm fact it will just make it harder reducing the summer school holidays.

- I think this is a terrible idea. Children and teachers (and many parents) look forward to a real break in the summer, when the weather is good. There is a risk that 2 weeks in February and October would be spent far more on devices or watching TV, rather than spending time outdoors. Beaches are free and abundant on the Island - colder weather entertainment is expensive. Families would be out of synch with their relatives on the mainland and with holiday activities offered elsewhere. It would be impossible to attract good teachers, who would be unwilling to sacrifice their well-earned long summers. Island children would sit resentfully in hot classrooms while holidaymakers from elsewhere enjoy everything the Island has to offer.
- Why is reducing the summer half-term and extending the October half-term not being considered? This would mean an earlier summer break in July/August and maintaining the 6-week holiday.
- I don't think this will achieve anything - because it will mean parents would have to go abroad to have a 'hot' holiday so many still wouldn't be able to afford it!! Who wants two weeks off in Feb or Oct??? Not me!!
- i do not think there is any need to shorten summer holidays, because the tourist companies/ travel companies will amend their prices to reflect these changes anyway.
- Pointless, leave as it is as no real benefit.
- It would mean teachers get less of a break. As they have to do at least 2 weeks worth of work during the summer holiday in preparation for September.
- I like to go travelling all summer, so the longer the holiday the better.
- I like having the long summer break with my children.
- I work in a school and feel as a member of staff we need the 6 weeks break in the summer and children do too, especially where we live to enjoy the summer on our beautiful Island. Tour Operators will soon realise if the holidays change and increase their prices accordingly
- why not extend the Easter break
- leave things alone. schools have too much power over families as it is.
- It won't make family holidays cheaper as you suggest over the October half term because mainland schools often have different half term dates to us, so the prices of holidays are normally high either side of half term anyway. I'd prefer to have more time off with my children in the summer when things are open and the weather is better.
- I don't want the change to happen. Working in a school & having a child in primary school means I can enjoy time with my child in nicer weather conditions.
- I don't like the proposal because it moves holiday from the warmer months to colder/wetter times. It's a shame that exams prevent extending the summer half term - I would have supported that.
- Reduction of Year 11 teaching time would be a worry for my children with longer half-terms during the year.
- This is wrong on so many levels - why are you even thinking about disrupting children's education again just to make holidays cheaper? Holidays in the summer will become even more expensive as there will be less time to take them, prices will then just go up in the half terms - travel agents are interested in making money, nothing else. As a teacher you see the loss of momentum after larger breaks, at least now that only happens once a year and it's at the end of exam courses, adding more gaps during the year will only make teaching more

disjointed and disrupt the continuity of learning, affecting results which the island really doesn't need. Please IW Council learn from your past mistakes, concentrate on helping schools not meddling with things yet again this will only have negative effects. And if you must make changes, it should be for a proven educational benefit, not to make holidays cheaper which it won't anyway as mentioned above. Crack down on parents who are breaking the law and taking their child out of school, if you choose to have a child you must take responsibility and face the fact that your holidays are more expensive and you can only take them at certain times. Taking a foreign holiday is not a human right! There are a lot worse places to be in the summer break than right here, plenty of people spend a lot of money to come here for holidays. I hope that you can come to see what a negative effect this would have on our schools and education system. Why have they not done this elsewhere? Because it's a bad idea!

- Weather in October and February is seldom very good, most activities on the IOW are outdoors so it is hard to engage children. I would welcome extending Easter or Summer half term and starting the Autumn term later in September.
- Make Summer Holiday later in the year
- The half term holiday that should be extended to two weeks is the May/June break.
- living on an Island we need a 6 week holiday if weather were nice pupils would wish to be on beach Winter nothing to do on IOW why would you want time off then
- This would be the best alternative to what we already do. However, this idea is not something I agree with as I feel that the current set up is absolutely fine. I disagree in the strongest possible terms.
- Strongly oppose!
- Is this to keep heating costs down??
- The summer break is time for families to get together and have time away from school, the terms are evenly split currently and the children would suffer from longer terms as they all get very tired towards the end of term. More days would be lost from illness as they get run down.
- Dreadful idea, 2 weeks off in February would be just plain miserable. October is end of season in most resorts so not a good time to take a break either.
- I think that the students of schools benefit from having a long summer holiday and are fully refreshed as a result.
- There are already two weeks off for Easter, so to increase the February half term to two weeks would put pressure on parents to cover this time off school. The weather is usually much worse in February, and the shorter daylight hours mean colder and darker conditions for the children to try to find suitable activities to fill the extra time off.
- Secondary students never get the Learning! have times bac.
- It seems that none of these decisions are based on any research! This system was trialed in Bracknell in the early 2000's and swiftly removed as recruitment of teachers became very hard as it was highly unpopular. Has any research been done on this? The argument for cheaper holidays is one based on absolute ignorance as if proper research had been done then the council would know that holiday companies will adjust prices no matter when schools set their holidays.

- Most people prefer to take their holidays (in England or abroad) in the sunshine. Shortening the weeks in the summer would make these holidays less available and therefore more expensive! Which may encourage more people to take children out of school during term time. If it is to happen, then I feel the Autumn is the best option for 2 weeks, as its a very long term leading up to Christmas. Also its several degrees warmer in October than February..so more likely for people to be encouraged to take an Autumn break and easier for parents to get out and about with their children. (Although not as nice as all those glorious beach, park and bike days in August!!) And with the correct parenting, the holidays can be a rich environment for children.
- This should be changed to a 3 week Christmas break rather than adding to half terms.
- I think this is a terrible idea. They are the worst two holidays for time of year and being able to do things with our children. It makes no sense.
- I can see no reason for changing to a two week half term. For teachers, parents and pupils this means swapping two weeks in the summer when the weather is good for two weeks in either late October or late February when the weather is likely to be bad. I am sure that both parents and pupils would prefer holidays in the summer, giving more opportunity for outdoor activities - sports, beach days, walking, cycling, etc.
- Do not shorten the summer holidays. Businesses will suffer due to lack of teenage employees and families need that long break together
- If you were to take a week of the summer would it not be a good idea to add it onto the Christmas holiday?!
- Summer holidays are an important Time for the children to play, to go to the beach without thinking to go back to school. A lot of children do not leave the island during holidays. Summer is when the weather is the best to be outside. Summer is when some children spend time with their cousins who live on the mainland. Some children are doing some sport camp or music camp on the mainland during summer so if the holidays are shorter they will not be able to do it . Having more weeks at half term do not mean cheaper holidays because some school on the mainland will be off at the same time or foreign schools will be off at the same time. In France for exemple school are off for 2 weeks in October half term and February half term
- It will disadvantage year 11 and post 16 students who need the continuity in teaching time in their final exam years. Year 11 and 13 will leave after exams, so the shorter summer holiday will not affect them, they will end up with one less week of education in their final year.
- It would be more useful to move the holiday forward to the hottest part of the year rather than struggle on through the heat and have bored pupils in the rain through August!
- Yes, I do have comments. It is an absolutely ridiculous idea. What am I supposed to do with children for two weekin October or February? It's cold, dark and raining most of the time.We will sit at home for most of it, kids will get bored as hell. Whoever came up with this proposal clearly has got too much spare time to come up with things as stupid like that. Clearly they have no kids or earn enough to go on holiday abroad in October or February.
- I do not agree with shortening the summer Holiday because at this time the prices of ferries and planes go up and its hard to to catch Cheaper prices, we are working parents and we

often have to organise our breaks from work with our colleges as they want to share a break with their children within a limited time of the children holidays.

- Well, I come from a country where the summer holidays last over two months. The standard of education there is higher than in the UK, dare I say so, and the longer summer break doesn't lead to loss of learning. Perhaps if the schools were properly funded then the quality of teaching would improve.
- Why change things that have always worked. Children are assessed throughout each term to help them stay on track monitoring this through their work and homework. If you shorten the summer holiday when will maintenance work be carried out? We've all struggled this term and 8 week working term with very excited, tired, ill children then passed onto staff!
- I do think that the summer holidays should be shortened by a week, however I think it would benefit children to have that week out onto the Christmas holidays as they come home exhausted at the end of the term and go back to school exhausted because of how busy Christmas is..allowing them extra time to get over the festive period would be better for everyone.
- None, although if children are on school holidays surely it is better to have a longer break in summer rather than other seasons of the year. Plus parents have child care in place which may be difficult to rearrange.
- don't shorten the summer break.
- This won't reduce holiday prices as the travel agencies/holiday cottage owners will soon catch up with the new dates and charge higher rates for those too. Plus who wants extra holidays in Feb or Oct when the weather is rarely good.
- Feb and Oct not usually good weather wise for kids on holiday. Also it wouldn't reduce prices as the holiday providers would soon latch on and bring the prices in line.
- Leave it as it is
- It is nicer to have a longer summer holiday but if it is going to be changed I would rather have a longer break in the autumn.
- I am a teacher and I strongly believe that changing the school holidays would make no difference to the attendance and would actually make things worse for the island schools. Changing the holidays would make working on the island less appealing, holidays would become more expensive during the summer because there is less time to take them and the price would go up during half terms anyway. I think that changing the school holidays is not the answer. We should invest more in educating parents. In my experience it is not always the low income families who take holidays during term time, therefore changing the term dates would not improve attendance but would have a negative effect on recruitment.
- Whilst I think that is a good idea I am surprised a longer Xmas break has not been considered in view of it being a busy time for families and difficult for school staff to have a break. It would also have the advantage of saving on heating and possible closures due to weather
- The schools are too hot inside all year round. They would be unbearable in the height of summer. You would need to install air conditioning. Families need the best chance of good weather on their holidays which is in the summer. Teachers would leave the profession in droves when they are hard enough to recruit and retain as it is.
- There is very little to do on the island with children in February as so much is closed. There is more to do / open in the October half-term and the weather is a bit better. This first

(Autumn) term is also the longer / hardest term so preferable to have a longer break than if we really need to shorten summer break. However, for us, a long summer break works nicely and makes the most of the weather and island business/tourism. There will likely be financial losses for island businesses that cater for children in the summer time if children have to be in school more at this time (that might not be totally compensated if shifted to October due to the weather not being as good). If concerns are around learning loss over the summer then perhaps we as parents could be given guidance on helping to reduce this through homework?!

- The longer summer holiday allows families to make the most of the summer weather, allowing more cost effective holidays close to home and more out activities
- In February child care is harder based on the weather
- There seems to be no supporting argument for this. There is no evidence of a dip in attainment. The US, and lots of Europe have a far longer summer break. Summer holidays are what memories are made from. Cheaper holidays.... it not going to happen. Parents will still take children out of school time regardless!
- My eldest son attends SEN college and my youngest son attends primary school. My daughter is at CTK I have reduced my working hours to work term time only so I can look after them during the holidays - would all the schools still break at the same time including St Georges ? I am happy with the existing arrangements and note that other Councils ( in Brighton for example) have tried the new arrangements without success.
- Yes don't do it.
- Keep it as it is. Want the children to enjoy the summer months rather than extending the other half term with horrible weather
- I don't think the summer holidays should be shortened
- Children struggle in June and July with the heat. Why would you shorten the holiday. I think that achieves nothing to their learning. Let them enjoy time away. Also extra time of in Autumn or Winter when the weathers rubbish!! Why change what has worked for years.
- As an ex-teacher, I would have preferred to keep the holidays/term times as they are.
- Not to do it
- This will take time away from year 11s during their vital exam year
- I disagree with the proposal to reduce the summer holiday to increase the February or October half term. My preference would be to increase the Easter holiday to Three weeks or have Two weeks during the May/June half term.
- Having looked at the proposals, By shortening the summer holiday there invariably is a lengthy half term of 7 or more weeks occurring more frequently than it currently does! For those that can't afford to holiday away from the island, during the spring break and autumn breaks there is far less open as the main tourist attractions are FULLY open during the 6 week summer holiday. The weather plays a big part too. As for the loss of learning....with guidance from schools and support, it isn't always the case that children return to school and have fallen behind. I suspect it is more likely that the pressure on schools from government are forcing them to look at changing the timetable. It shouldn't all be about academic learning either...time away from school and the pressures of exams is as invaluable as attendance and achievement at them!

- I think the summer break is important for staff and children to relax and enjoy time outdoors. Providing 2 weeks at half term will not lead to cheaper holidays as holiday companies will just adjust their pricing system.
- Students should be out enjoying the summer rather than sitting in a classroom sweating, unable to concentrate due to the heat. Holidays have been the same for years and should be left as they are. Children need a good long break from school before starting a new year. Why mess around with holidays and ruin it for them? Stop messing with things that aren't broken. If families want to go away for a long break it can be done in the summer holidays. The whole idea is completely ridiculous!
- If you are not planning a holiday abroad then entertaining your children for 2 weeks in cold/rainy February or October vs sunny warm July or August is not particularly appealing.
- I don't believe that changing the school term dates will reduce the number of children having term time holidays nor will it impact on children's progress or achievement within school. We live in a beautiful place which is at it's absolute best and most enjoyable during the Summer months- which should be cherished by Island children, teachers, staff and families.
- We enjoy the full summer holiday break away from school. It provides proper time as a family where the children have a proper break and can enjoy summer time.
- How do you propose to raise standards by reducing the number of teaching weeks before standardised assessments in the summer term? You/the government measure schools by these tests and, as a result, your performance as a local authority. As a teacher, I don't hold much store by these results as children's progress shouldn't be determined by a single test. However, I start preparing my children (6&7 year olds, taking their end of KS1 tests) in February due to pressures from above to raise attainment and results through these tests. Shortening the these terms will have a massive detrimental impact in my opinion. Also, the 2 week Autumn break proposal I don't think is a good idea either. I teach a mixed y1/2 year group and it takes the first 6 weeks of term to settle the year 1s into a routine and ease the transition from FKS. To then take them out of school for 2 weeks would, in my opinion, impact negatively on the following term as they have just got used to said routines and expectations and then have 2 weeks out of these. Yes, I agree that the first half term is always tiring but I don't think a 2 week will solve the problem. Excessive workload, unrealistic expectations and lack of funding are the main causes of tiredness amongst children and teachers! Who both play an equal part in raising standards.
- I want to retain the longer summer holiday
- I think, especially for the school starters in reception year, a two week break in the autumn would be detrimental to their settling process. I believe the two week break would be much better suited to the spring term... especially as then the days are getting longer again and more can be done outdoors.
- Would be better to have 3 weeks at Christmas instead of 2 weeks in October or February
- I feel that the current situation is the best option as an extended summer break gives both staff and students the opportunity to relax and recuperate.
- The children will just be settled after a long break, then they will have a 2 week break again. This would be more detrimental as it takes more time to settle them back to learning after a 2 week break.

- Adequate childcare facilities are an issue for working parents. At least there is a chance of enjoying good weather with leave in the summertime. Plus visiting and holidaying with family members who live on the mainland will become difficult if school holidays don't link up. I don't see a real issue with current system compared to the cost of changing things.
- I think we should keep the summer holiday as 6 weeks as this is when the weather is good
- please don't do it
- I do not feel moving anything will resolve the issue of children taken out of school for holidays. It is dependant on too many other factors. All children should be allowed one week(I personally feel two would be fine) of their parents choosing to holiday. Experiencing the world and family time are just as important as education and provide great life experience. Things should be left alone but the ridiculous fines should be shelved, it is not a deterrent as it is still cheaper to holiday and pay the fine. By lengthening the half terms it just means workers are stretched even further when trying to find suitable childcare.
- The children are exhausted and need that time off to develop and play without the constant focus on their education - as do their teachers. Their minds need time to relax and process what they have learned. I am also concerned as to how it will affect older children - the Island Y11 students will have less actual teaching time if the extra holidays were in the Autumn and Spring terms compared to other schools on the mainland and with the IoW being one of the lowest performing LEAs in the country, one would think that trying to improve students' chances would be of higher importance than people being able to take their children on holiday in term time. I do not believe that a week off from school is that debilitating when one considers the massive underfunding of schools and the increase in class size. Of all the things to be focusing on, this is literally the least important aspect of education right now and reflects poorly on those making these decisions at present.
- I do not want to see the summer break made shorter because children deserve the long 6 week break , it's something every adult can look back on and remember waiting the whole year just for those 6 long weeks of freedom and adventure , Children and parents both need this break , it's a break from normality, a break from routine , it's pure family time , myself and partner both work full time , and we don't have a line of babysitters , we wrap our hours around each other and we pay for childcare where needed , and we are happy to do it , we want our 6 weeks , our children deserve their 6 weeks if anything make it longer ! Life isn't all about being serious and prompt all the time ... it's also about having fun and making the best memories you can ! Please don't take this away !
- I and my children LOVE the long summer holidays. Being able to switch off totally and really enjoy this time as a family is so important. They don't count down the time as it's so long . Shorten it and it reduces the charm and chance to enjoy the lovely weather
- If you want to extend then do so when the weather is adequate for people to go out with children not when it is cold, wet and I suitable for some (disabilities, elderly to go out with children.
- I believe that the summer holiday break should remain as it is. This is the time that the children are fully able to regenerate ready for the next year. They make their childhood memories during this period and are able to return to school in September ready for the fresh challenges of the new school year.
- he long summer holiday is one of the perks of the job and a chance to properly re-charge...



- This will make it more difficult for parents and teachers to book their holidays as there would only be 5 weeks to choose from. It will also make it harder for people with holiday season type businesses to run their summer period.
- I disagree with shorter holiday, as a teacher I work during most of my holidays, e.g. marking books, assessment, preparing lessons, etc. My summer holiday is the only non-working holiday and if shortened it would merge into another working off school period. As a teacher I already work at least another 40 hours a week outside my contracted hours and desperately need a long and well deserved break during the summer.
- The weather in either February or October would probably be very cold with dark mornings and evenings. Pupils would be stuck in front of electronic machines.
- A 6 week summer holiday means pupils are well rested for the long autumn term. There are 6 weeks of options to take holidays and is good for family time. A shorter holiday period would squeeze that. A 2 week break often isn't long enough to allow pupils and teachers to rest and recover properly. In addition, the weather is generally better in the summer - much better than the half terms suggested. I would rather have a 3 week christmas or Easter than a 2 week half term at either of those points!
- best having the extra week in the summer when the weather is better
- A two-week half term in Feb would mean the loss of an important week's exam preparation prior to GCSE and A Level exams. The 6 week summer holiday is needed to fully wind down from the stresses of the academic year and provides a sense of 'closure' for both students and staff. Shortening this length of time will result in both staff and students losing this important 'process'.
- It is a wonderful opportunity for children to experience life outside of the school environment and the longer summer holidays provide this. It would be a great shame to reduce them. I really believe that the majority of parents are the silent majority who do not care to take their children out of school for a cheaper holiday but prefer the system as it is. Those who do take children out in term time will always work according to their own rules. I have three primary school children and speak to many parents about this situation. The vast majority do not want change.
- The kids want to be able to enjoy the Kong summer evenings and hopefully the summer weather. Having an extra wk in either Feb or Oct doesn't benefit the kids or the parents in my opinion. We barely get good weather in these holidays as it is
- Other countries and even private schools here already have and benefit from longer school holidays including longer summer breaks. The benefits to attainment have been clearly documented. Children need time to unwind, destress (a growing problem) and have more time to be children, keen outside the classroom.
- We have the luxury of living on a holiday island and enjoy quality summer family time together. Children in yr 11 can not afford time away from school before mock or actual GCSE's it's a vital time! Reception children have just got into a routine, to have two weeks off will set them back. What can you do when days are cold and daylight hour short in Autumn?
- What is the point? If anything you should add on a week at Xmas. More people are off work and can spend more family time together. Half term in Oct or half term in Feb doesn't help anyone. As a GCSE teacher, we need that time in school in February! Students need to be in

school to prepare for exams! It would be madness to have a two week holiday in Feb and again in march/April for easter. Madness.

- Neither time of the year better may half term-possibility of better weather!
- Starting back a week earlier could work.
- Yes, it will reduce the learning time for Year 11 and year 13 students by one week and will reduce the summer holiday for teachers, leaving less time between the break up and public exam results when many teachers go back into work to support students.
- It will become increasingly difficult for parents to obtain leave during the 4 week summer window at their places of work to spend the warmer summer weeks with their children.
- Summer holidays are needed to rest and recouperate. A two week holiday late October would be the more favourable to split the lengthy half terms. The spring half terms tend to be shorter anyway. Holiday companies would soon catch on though and holiday prices would rise. Different authorities currently have different half term dates so we wouldn't benefit from lower holiday prices as companies charge higher prices for the two weeks already.
- The children need that break in summer
- please do not change it. the summer is too short a sit is. the UK has the shortest of European summer holidays and this is only just about enough time to de-stress and get back in time to be a whole and fully competent teacher.
- As a secondary school teacher we need to be in college on results days over the summer and to support admissions as well so shortening the summer break would make this holiday period more difficult.
- My preference would be to leave the holidays as they are
- Both of the proposed 2 week holidays fall at times of the year when we have dark evenings and more often than not inclement weather. The children would have less time outdoors than in the summer. Financially the schools would have 2 weeks extra of heating and lighting costs, given the financial constraints thrust upon schools this would also be a negative step.
- As a working parent it will make it harder for child minders as it is hard enough to find some at the right price
- I would like the school holidays to stay as they are, it always hard to get time off work in the summer holidays and will be even harder if the summer holidays are shortened.
- I would have one child in a 1 week half term and the other in a two week half term
- The island needs the tourists, shifting the summer will put families out who employ their own children.
- the idea is stupid, summer holidays should be same or maybe longer
- This is an important term for students taking examinations. Whilst it is a long and tiring term, I fear that a 2 week break at that stage would lead to rustiness and a loss of learning momentum
- I strongly disagree with shortening the summer holidays. This is a very important down time for children during which they experience learning outside of the academic environment, re-charge their batteries and spend time learning through play and exploration. I realise that not all parents are able to spend quality time with children throughout the holidays, but I resent being denied this opportunity because the Isle of Wight council want to experiment with the education system and with our children's lives. The last change to the education

system that they instigated has not resulted in improved learning as the removal of the three tier system was supposed to do. It has resulted in larger classes and fewer staff, reduced facilities for lower KS2 children who would once have been in well equipped middle schools but now stay in primary schools which lack the art rooms, science rooms etc which we lost when middle schools were closed. Please stop mucking up our children learning in the name of so called progress. Your last set of improvements have proved to be no improvement at all.

- I think this is appalling. This country already has a shorter summer holiday than other countries in Europe. It's very insulting to parents that you indicate there is learning loss in the holidays. Do you not think that parents ever do anything educational with their children during the holidays? Family time is more important than anything, yet you constantly strive to deprive parents of the right to do things with their children. The summer holiday is the best time for families to go out visiting places of interest, especially on the island.
- I do not support this proposal at all. At the end of the academic year, both students and teachers are mentally and physically exhausted; they need a good length of time to recuperate and recharge their batteries. Furthermore, for trainee teachers about to start their training, they need a suitable amount of time to move and organise themselves before the rigour of the academic year - and in some cases university - commences. Don't do it.
- As teachers we value the 6 weeks off as it tends to be the only time we get a substantial break and can rest up for the new school year.
- I do not agree with it. The Weather will be rubbish in February and October and prices of holidays will be increased anyway so I would rather still have 6 weeks off in the summer.
- I would rather the local authority improve the quality of teaching provided on the Isle of Wight than wasting time on tinkering with the system on the Island. I believe this regular tinkering and upheaval to the system is disruptive and damaging to the current crop of pupils education.
- I don't think shortening the summer holiday by one week will make much of a difference to children's retention of learning and won't change attainment or performance. This is one of the main reasons for shortening the summer break. As a teacher, the summer break is so valuable as an opportunity to recharge and increase my wellbeing. It usually takes two weeks to properly unwind from the job and then you prepare for the new term during the last couple of weeks of the holiday. Therefore, shortening the break will affect this.
- I strongly disagree with any change at the moment for the following reasons : - autumn 2 weeks there is little on the iow to entertain children especially those families with lower income (pupil premium) - spring term 2 weeks there is a high amount of coursework being worked on at this time. Deadlines have been an issue for pupils so a 2 week break would cause major issues on the quality/quantity of work being handed in.
- I personally feel that the summer holidays should remain as they are. If the Council do decide to change them, then I think the summer holiday should be reduced to 4 weeks, and a week added to both the October and February half terms.
- Not a good idea. Teachers and students need a good break in the summer and indeed look forward to it. Prep time takes time which would mean teachers have even less time to rest. Bad plan. Our teachers are under enough stress.

- I prefer to give the longer summer break, having two weeks in October when weather is not so good, the spring term is short so two weeks would not be needed
- Do not agree with the change, I've seen it in other authorities and the feeling is it does not work
- As the IOW struggles to recruit teaching staff, especially Science and Maths specialists I would imagine that this would be a negative step. I know of several colleagues who will move back to the mainland if the decision to shorten the summer holiday goes ahead. This is yet another short sighted decision aimed at disrupting the standard of education on the Island. Given the catastrophic decision to move from three tier to two tier, a move that has destroyed the chances of many young people across the country, I would suggest that the council leave Education alone.
- Main industry on the island is tourism with many students working or taking part in seasonal summer events. Schools are too hot to work in effectively during the summer months. These would impact on attendance.
- Creating a two week break in spring term will have no impact on parents wishing to take a summer break where prices may be cheaper. A 'summer' holiday in February is not an option.
- pretty ass
- Would prefer to remain as it is now or longer May half term
- Children do very little work in school leading up to Xmas break so I would not add another week prior to this in October. For families who can't afford winter sun extended cold holidays become expensive trying to entertain & occupy children. Reducing the 6 week summer means parents will be fighting over fewer weeks between other colleagues causing more term time absences.
- I don't think this will be beneficial for students or staff alike - the long break provides lots of opportunities, and having a two and a half week half-term break halfway through any term is unsettling and inconsistent for all concerned!
- A longer break in October or February will not help most parents take a holiday.
- In summer, there is a better time to spend holidays than winter. There are more options. Winter will not go with the child to the beach. And summer does not spoil us anyway. Children in the summer are tired more in school, they are hot. Because of this they do not focus on 100% lessons. I'm for it to stay as it is. It is better to abbreviate less during the school year than to take children's days off in the summer. Thank you
- Children need More summer hot weather and good weather in Holiday... don't want more holiday in Cold weather and rain because is bored in home sitting and just playing game
- I don't know why you want to take out summer holiday for kids. In summer is the best weather for them and for as parents. No everybody has a family here for look after the kids in breaks. We are working and this is a problem take holiday from work. Please don't do this.
- I don't really like that you are taking away two weeks of the summer holidays
- pls don't thnx
- I think that it would be better to keep the summer holiday as it is as it would relax us students for a while and give us more of a break from school.
- It would make no sense to take away 2 weeks from the SUMMER holiday, due to October and February being very cold and rainy months. I disagree in all.

- This is quite bad as people doing their GCSE's get less study in February. If the holiday was in October the weather would be too bad to do anything.
- I think it would be bad cuz the summer is nice and hot and we berly get nice and hot
- I don't think this is fair on the students behalf as the summer holidays is the best time in the year to relax and be with your family in the sun, if you take this away from us and give us a holiday in the cold weather, people will lazy around instead of having fun in the sun.
- It has been proposed by someone who has a business interest in reducing the summer break. No one has asked for this. Teachers should be having development days during the school breaks rather than term time. My child didn't start school until 08/01/18 and previously she broke up early for the summer holiday due to so-called teacher training days.
- it would be better if we got am extra week at Christmas instead of October or February so that's why I have chosen more days in summer
- I don't like it
- want extra days off and shorter days at school
- I do not like the way that our summer holidays are being shortend because this is a nice warm time and its nice to have a large amount of time off if it were to be shortend it would not feel so good, if the holidays are to expensive for holidays then this should go to the government to get the travel agents to lower the price, I think a lot of people would feel the same way not just pupils but parents/careers
- i do not like the idea of having to weeks of instead of 4 id rather have 4 in the summer because you can spend more time with family in the hot weather in all honesty i would keep it how it is
- I think that the holidays should be kept the same because the weather is bad in January and October and nice in the summer, so if you extend it in those half-terms, if you are stuck at home in the rain and wind, you might as well keep the week on the summer because of the good weather.
- I think that the holidays should be kept the same because the weather is better in the summer.
- Its absolutely ridiculous that they even thought of this. As a pupil myself I can say that the current arrangements should be maintained. The 6 week summer break for students is a time of relaxation before the back to school rush begins. So shortening it will make it feel like a long half term break rather than the big long chill out weeks it is
- I think that the holidays should be kept the same because of the weather would be cold or hot
- I think that it may mess with exams times
- i think it is imbecilic that it is being considered, obviously the weather is better in the summer than in February or October, no one including teachers will be happy about being free in the rainy weather and inside in the summer
- The summer is the only time I get to do stuff with my children due to work. Plus the summer holidays has the best weather, you struggle for things to do during the rest of the year! Being able to book work off for the summer is easy, it won't be if you add so many different times in the year that I'd have to book off.
- dont do it

- Swings and roundabouts. The weather plays a huge part in the autumn and spring half terms with few indoor facilities to entertain the children.
- ADD THE EXTRA TIME TO THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY AS PER THE PEOPLE REALLY REQUIRE!
- Keep long summer holiday !
- no , I don't to shorten the summer holiday because I don't want to be sitting in the house bored when its cold. where as if we have the same summer holiday not shortened we can spend more time with our family having fun in the hotness
- I think that if you shorten the summer holidays and increase spring or autumn it will not be beneficial for the students because in spring and autumn it is colder so the student will not get any exercise. Where as in the summer it is too hot to stay indoors therefore you go outside too cool of, play and get exercise.
- I don't think you should shorten the summer holiday because some of the students will still be in the holiday mood and the last week is to get everything ready for back to school, so by taking a week off, the pupils will probably still be in the holiday mood and they will want to stay at home.
- i think you should make the weekends longer only a day longer because lots of students come to school tired
- because in august and September when we have the 6 weeks off its hot and we can go down the beach but in October and February we don't want to be sat inside because its cold
- I think we should keep the summer holiday the same because it is nice and long and people can go on holiday to a foreign country. As if you add more weeks onto the October break it isn't nice weather as it is cold and may rain and it wont be as fun so school could keep us busy in October.
- NO I DO NOT AGREE AS I DO NOT WANT TO AS I WILL BE IN THE COLD
- No, I do not agree with that because then we will have a longer cold holiday and I like the warmer holidays to be longer.
- i think it is a bad idea. we would all forget things in 6 weeks 4 week and 3 weeks. most people would like the abroad sun in august and early September
- I would rather stay with the 6 week holiday because it would be boring and it wouldn't be much fun!
- I think you should keep the summer holidays the same because the GCSE students and the A level students need to take the weight of there heads and not be worried .
- I think we should keep everything the same because although people go on holiday in the winter, we would like to have the 6 week summer holiday because in the summer it is nicer weather to go outside
- I think we should keep it the same because we want more time off school in the warm weather and people are more likely to go and with family and friends and if It does go shorter then people will be stuck indoors.
- I think its a bad idea because if people want to go on holiday the wont be able to and it I don't want to be sat at home if it got shorter then if it just the same we will go outside at get exercise because you need can keep you healthy.
- don't want to shorten the summer hols because it would mean that you get more time to spend with family.

- I don't want you to shorten the summer holiday because in the summer the weather is hot and nice so I do not want to be at school for the nice weather I would rather be at home and with family.
- 9 week term is too long at the end of six weeks children are really struggling . how will all the parents at one place of work be able to cover each other if they all have to take a summer holiday within the 4 weeks.
- With adjusted school holiday dates it would insentivise travel companies to raise prices, as they do currently during the holiday season, on these new dates meaning there would be no overall "saving". Adjusted dates would also mean families with one child in school on the island and another off the island would find it considerably difficult to organise family trips as the holidays themselves do not sync up. This leaves people unable to spend time together. In the longer term this would also discourage students at 6th form level choosing to find education of the island for the reason mentioned above forcing people to stay on the island.
- February half term means nothing will open to entertain children. Bored cold children. The only advantage is for the school heating bill.
- I think what needs to be taken into account are the fact that the children of all ages actually need a break... it frustrates me when people say they have too much time off. The children work really hard and are often shattered by the time the major holidays come around. Why can't the xmas break be extended? Breaking up 3 days before Xmas and going back a day after New Year only makes matters worse for all involved. I would rather see the summer reduced by a week and the extra days slotted around xmas. Have all compulsory teacher training days in a week around the spring half term and your problem is solved.
- This won't stop term time holidays, companies will just put up their prices either side of half terms. Children with additional needs can't always cope with unstructured time during holidays and have routines, this would cause them extra stress. To break in October for two weeks so soon after the long break wouldn't be conducive to learning as teachers would have to recap over and over as students would be disrupted further. The same in February, a term which is already short and extremely important for gcse students.
- do not do it
- autumn and spring holiday shouldn't be extended because weather is not nice and days are short, it would be better for kids to have a longer break during summer, when they can spend more time outside.
- Why not shorten the summer holidays by two weeks and not add these weeks onto any half term, send the kids to school instead.
- Summer gives all the children a chance to recharge and have some fun I don't think that any of the changes you have outlined are enough of a shake up to make any difference to taking kids on holidays etc and long term are hard enough now kids are so tired 7-8 week long stints without a break is too long for them
- I do not see the point in taking weeks from the summer holiday and adding them to February and October half terms when the weather is bad. I would prefer to see the whole system changed with a shorter summer holiday earlier in July, with longer half term in September

- Children should enjoy the sunshine and get longer summer holidays!! How can they concentrate in school when the weather is good outside and they want to enjoy the sunshine ☀️👉
- For those who work in tourism these proposals will not help them
- Please don't shorten the summer holidays, they're fine as they are
- No it's an awful idea
- Bad idea
- I don't think shortening the summer holiday - the holiday that every student looks forward to ALL year - is a great idea, although I do agree that the autumn term is not ideal. I think one thing that needs to be taken into account is how this will affect students with friends and family not on the Isle of Wight organising with them. Aside from that, I think time off is better in July and August than in October or February, and I'm afraid I think a large number of students agree.
- I agree with shortening the summer break but would prefer a 3 week Christmas break rather than extended half terms
- KEEP IT AS IT IS PLEASE. Who wants holiday when it is wet and cold!
- Shortening the summer holiday by one or two weeks would have little effect on loss of learning over the summer. Parents will still take holidays during term time as the cost benefit outweighs the fines incurred.
- Leave it as it is. The summer is hard in a classroom, if you have never been in one you don't really have the right to change the holidays. Only teachers and teaching staff know what it likes to be in a hot stuffy classroom With 25+ tired, over heated kids who just want to be outside. Concentration is non-existent on both sides!
- Teaching staff and students need the six week break. Shortening the holiday will add to teacher stress and make little impact on summer 'dip' in students. Parents will continue to take students out of schools for term time holidays.
- Great another week we can spend indoors seeing as the weathers usually awful. Keep summer holidays
- Firstly, the Isle of Wight is a holiday island and generally enjoys a warm climate in the summer months so this is NOT the time to keep children stuck in classrooms when they should be out enjoying our beautiful island. Secondly, the only time that teaching staff at all levels get a proper break from their very taxing job is over the longer summer break. In the shorter breaks if you look in schools you will find tired teachers trying to catch up or get ahead before the pupils are back. It is only in the long break that they can actually switch off for maybe a couple of weeks. Children also need time to switch off - parents too can aid learning over breaks by encouraging reading etc. Learning should be a 3 way partnership. Thirdly, one week shorter may be a consideration but certainly not 2 weeks shorter.
- Leave it as it is. There is much more to do with our children during July and August especially on the island and the weather is generally better than having them off for an extra week in Feb or Oct.
- Summer holiday is important for the children and teachers. It is the main holiday for them and 6 weeks holiday do not effect badly children's learning. Some of the families could go to far away places to spend summer holiday. I don't think that it is a good idea to shorten summer holiday. I do not want summer holidays to be shortened actually.



- Retain current length of summer school holidays
- There is nothing to do during October or February to warrant two weeks off. The summer (fingers crossed) will be full of beach trips and more attractions (albeit extortion to get it) will be open. The only issue is the lack of work parents can do due to childcare/some childcare providers are shut.
- I would prefer a longer summer break
- Looks WRONG to change the current timetable of Isle of Wight schools and being the ODD ONE OUT in Hampshire. After having two weeks half terms holiday, students need a week or two to come back to their routine and then they have another two weeks off soon. You also need to THINK about parents who work in other educational systems or our NHS, taking two weeks off for them during half terms is IMPOSSIBLE (in particular with considering the extra pressure on NHS during winter time). Surely cheap holiday for parents are important but it shouldn't affect the educational system of the Island which has been struggling and just made some progress.
- i think its a bad idea, at least extend the October holiday for Halloween
- Do not agree
- I think shortening the summer holiday because of a loss of knowledge over this time is ignorant - By increasing half terms, students are bound to forget things over time, but by spreading this time out, forgetting things will be more frequently throughout the year, during a time where students actually do their work. Also, an increased half term during either of these times would cause a larger problem on students in year 11: the summer holidays doesn't affect the year 11 school year as exams are before this and the year ends early. A loss of time in school throughout February or October would lead to less time being able to improve themselves preparing for exams before the end of school. Spending this time at home would be inefficient and without help from teachers and such, students are more likely to suffer during these times.
- I don't want it, I think it is fine as it is.
- what's the point, you wouldn't shorten or extend either of the holidays because either way you still get spare time whether its after school or in school break. so just leave it as it is, most people would enjoy the time that they are not in school, but with their family.
- in my eyes is that the summer holidays is the time of being with your family and were the weather is very nice. But on the other hand if you extend the spring term and the autumn term that is when the bad weather is and its going to be a bad spring and autumn term.
- i personal think that changing a break in the summer is incredibly bad! and one of your points was that we will forget stuff well pupils all around the island properly forgot stuff in the Christmas holiday so whats your point it should be left the same!
- I disagree with this as I believe the reasons for this change are inadequate, it is a minority of students that go on holiday, leaving the majority of students with a holiday in a time that has worse weather conditions. Also, if the timetable is being changed as some students forget things, these students should revise over the holiday appropriately, but not as a requirement.
- I think this utterly stupid as its fine to keep it the same as a 6 week break is a good idea and by reducing the 6 weeks it will effect the students mentality as the 6 weeks gives us time to

relax so by reducing the 6 weeks to 4 it means that students may not have enough family time.

- this is my opinion but I would rather it would be the same
- it is stupid and i don't think that we should have a two week half term break
- I like the 6 weeks we get, I think it's enough time.
- I can't believe you are even considering messing around with the education system again because of the Platt case. He lost - parents cannot take their children out of school and you should not be pandering to people like him by changing term dates, enforce the law that is there. If people want to go on holiday and have children, they need to pay for it, simple as that.
- Think it should be left at 6wks
- I would like to add a little bit more time onto the christmas holiday and keep every thing else the same because at the end of the day it is a time to spend with your family.
- Why can't you leave things alone. If it aint broke don't fix it. Look how well a reshuffle to a 2 tier system went. The summer is the only good thing on this island so dont take that away. Many teens make their kids yearly Spends working the summer season you would kill off teens job market. Local businesses rely on them. Just focus on more important issues on the island and leave holidays well alone.
- I am extremely concerned by the well-intentioned yet, in my opinion, misguided proposals to change the school holiday distribution on the Isle of Wight. 'The summer dip' in standards has been quoted as one of the reasons for shortening the summer holiday, but it is highly misguided to think that two week half terms will not have a negative impact on children's achievement. In particular, it would be extremely unhelpful for exam year groups to have a two week break in February, in addition to the longer Easter holiday just before their exams, as the Spring term is a vital time for preparation to meet the expected standards. Teachers are likely to end up setting holiday homework to try to compensate for this. Such compulsory homework would not normally be set during the summer holiday, so would therefore result in additional erosion of children's free time. It is also important to recognise that the extended summer holiday is a unique opportunity for teachers to fully refresh after a summer term, which for many is extremely pressurised due to exam preparation and delivery, exceptionally time consuming and rigorous teacher assessments, end of term productions, residential visits, awards evenings and parent meetings –all involving many additional hours of work in the evenings –as well as numerous other activities and commitments. This holiday is of sufficient length to allow teachers the opportunity to travel abroad for extended periods of time –if so desired – or engage in other experiences which not only result in the ability to fully unwind, but also ultimately lead to being more interesting classroom practitioners. In addition to this, teachers also have the time to review their practice for the year ahead -reading widely, discovering and creating new resources and putting in place fresh, dynamic planning suited for the new year group and making plans to improve the classroom environment. Further to this, it is an important time for children to be able to enjoy freedom and relaxation after a highly pressurised term. Considering the demands of the new curriculum, the pressures of exams and the rising concerns regarding mental health of our young people, the importance of this stress-free period of time cannot be underestimated. A further consideration is that the proposed changes to holidays will also result in increased pressure on working parents throughout the

year to make suitable childcare arrangements. Finally, as an extremely experienced Year 6 teacher, there is no doubt in my mind that these changes would lead to a drop in Year 6 SATs achievement –which given our current situation would be disastrous for the Island.

- The summer holiday is the only time a teacher has to properly unwind from the stresses of teaching and working 50 to 60 hrs per week. The de-stress period can take at least a week. A two week break is barely long enough to unwind before preparation for the next half term has to start.
- Summer holidays are already short compared to other European countries... I would rather choose for my children to have longer days throughout the year.
- I know it is stated that you can't extend the summer half term because of exams but other local authorities do this for primary schools only (Stockport council are one of these).
- A lot of older children benefit from longer summer holidays by gaining work experience and earning money from summer jobs. If the holidays are short ended this will be difficult for them.
- Summer break is too short as it is. It would be better to get rid of the half term break in October and actually extend Summer holidays
- The need to consider school holidays is driven by a demand for some parents to take holidays, but many parents are unable to take holidays at all and therefore have the challenge of child care during holiday periods. Children's activities are more abundant on the island in the summer and if holidays remain in line with the rest of the country then you can rely on other family members to share the burden. I feel we are seeking to make changes on account of a few rather than the majority. Holidays are no cheaper in Feb and Oct either side of half term as private schools and schools abroad already have different term times
- As a teacher and parent, when the summer holiday has been less than 6 weeks, I feel that the break is not long enough.
- I would prefer not to have the summer holiday shortened as I feel my children need a decent break from school to decompress. I would like to see either Feb/Oct/May half terms extended by compressing the inset days to create an extra week as Lanesend Primary school do. My preference at primary stage would be for shortened Easter holidays rather than shortened summer.
- Too close to Christmas and too close to start of school year
- By shortening the summer holiday, you are narrowing the window for taking a break during that time even more. Also, if one has children at school both on the IOW and the mainland, this causes problems for the parents as they have more holiday breaks during which to manage child care.
- Shorten the summer holiday and leave the half terms as they are. 6 weeks was originally put in place so children could help with the harvest. That doesn't happen so much these days.
- the term from Sept to Dec is very long!
- I think changing to a longer term time in the initial September to Christmas will have a significant impact on Reception children, some only just turned 4 doing such a long term. Illness, settling etc will all come to the forefront for this vulnerable group.
- Neither is sensible, one follows a long Christmas break and one precedes it.
- I don't feel shortening the summer holidays is necessary

- I think it should stay the same! The children deserve a long summer to enjoy being children and enjoy the lovely weather. It should not be shorter when all the half terms are fine as they are and have been for years!
- Harder to entertain children in the winter, especially when trying to get them away from the TV and other screens
- I do not believe that adjusting school term dates and holiday length is the answer to improving standards. Instead, support the schools to improve in the classroom and by focusing on resourcing and developing the learning environment. I see very little impact this would have on holiday prices.
- On both a professional and personal level I am totally opposed to any such proposed change. Firstly as a teacher, the one week half term is an opportunity to catch up on marking and planning which the current national educational arrangements do not allow for within a normal working week/term. I do not view half terms as a break from teaching and extending them by a week will not achieve this. The two week Easter break does not provide me with a break, as again this is taken up by catch up work. The longer summer 'holiday' does provide me with a break. However, it is only because of the length of the 'holiday' This is because the first week is usually spent tidying up outstanding work and the final two weeks spent planning, preparation and analysing exam results. Therefore the long 'holiday' transpires to provide a two week break from the work commitment. Any shortening will eat into this and reduce my capacity to recharge my battery. Secondly, as a parent of six children, all of whom have moved onto university through Island Schools, the summer break was essential for them to relax and escape from the considerable pressure they were put under at all stages of their education. In my opinion, they did not suffer as a result of a long break, Indeed, if there was any meaningful evidence supporting the detrimental nature of a long break, the independent education sector would produce very poor results, as their summer holidays are significantly longer than any state school or academy. Dare I suggest that class sizes have far more effect on student attainment than an extra week off in the summer holiday. Finally, as a tourist centre, many students actually gain meaningful employment during the summer holiday. We are told constantly how work experience is essential to the development of young adults and how businesses repeatedly bemoan the lack of this. An actual summer job is far more relevant in this development than the often meaningless 'work experience weeks' offered by secondary schools.
- We would be devastated to have the summer holidays reduced. I feel very strongly about this, and do not want it shortened. Make the teacher training days consecutive at the end of autumn half term.
- It feels like you are attempting change for the sake of it? I have no idea of the actual need to do this (I guess your surveys will tell you), but people plan around the established norm, and changing it because others have/it can be changed isn't necessarily the best option
- Should not happen at all
- it's the holiday companies you need to change not the summer hols
- I think that this is a ridiculous idea full stop. Why would we want to provide our young people with the complete opposite of the provisions on the mainland? The system works absolutely fine as it is, it does not need to be changed. Summer holidays are a big part of this countries culture and gives young people and their families a good period of time to be

together. There are always lots of activities organised across the Isle of Wight during the summer for young people and their families to go to. October is a dark and depressing month with not so many activities on offer to entertain children, as is February. This will affect tourism greatly around the Isle of Wight. Therefore, due to these reasons, I am strongly against this.

- I do not agree with this proposal as the children already miss the best of the summer by breaking up late in July. Also very hard to find things to do in the winter when it's cold and wet and expensive to pay for indoor activities for them.
- The summer holiday is long to give teachers and pupils time to recover from the hideous regime it has become with no work/home balance
- Long terms are detrimental to the learning of young children- a nine week term for reception age children is far too long. Reducing the summer holiday to four weeks with a potential nine week half term will also not become an attractive selling point when trying to attract and recruit staff to the island.
- My eldest daughter is at Ryde Academy who set their own holiday dates.. it would only work for me if the dates coincide with Academy dates otherwise we would still be unable to book holidays during school holidays. I also have difficulty getting two weeks summer leave from work during 6 weeks so would be even harder in 5 weeks
- I teach reception age children. I feel an 8 week autumn term would be too long for them to handle at age 4, however, having a 2 week October half term would be detrimental to reception children being able to settle into the routine of going to school. They would spend september getting settled, to then have 2 weeks off and then have to start settling in for a second time. Wellbeing is a key factor in ensuring children make good and better progress and I feel a 2 week autumn half term would have a very negative impact on their well being. Having a 2 week half term in the spring would be much better.
- It would be more beneficial for an extra week in June. Better weather and more for the kids to do
- I do not agree with this proposal
- It often takes me a couple of weeks at the start of the summer holidays to wind myself down and finish a school year and then another two weeks on the end to gear up and prepare for the new year/class. This can be a particularly busy time if changing classroom, year group or school. As a parent, I love this time with my family as I see very little of them during term time!
- Why does the half term have to be a whole week. in other countries the half term is more like a long weekend. If your aim is to break up a long autumn term then 2 "long weekend" breaks could be implemented.
- Neither Oct or Feb are good times for an extra week, not everyone can afford to have a holiday abroad in these times, within Europe not much is open so usually only more expensive holidays are available. It can be tricky to organise grandparents to childmind during Oct and Feb. Appendix 3 cannot happen the paper talks of the Autumn term being too long and then proposes a 9 week 2nd half Summer term!! Easter public holidays do not need to be part of the Easter break (call it the Spring break instead) and then IWC will be able to make the Spring term of equal weeks both sides of the half term holiday.
- I don't want to be forced to use my limited annual leave in February

- I would regard either option as a mistake but a preference would be for the Autumn. In my opinion teachers need a long enough break to refresh fully. Four weeks would not allow this. Teacher recruitment and retention on the Island is a big issue, suitably qualified and experienced staff are very hard to attract. Removing the chance for teachers to have a real break would increase the difficulty we have in attracting good applicants. With the difficulty in providing good schools comes the problem with attracting professions with families. At present many choose not to come here because of the reputation of our schools, this includes professionals such as teachers, we do not need the situation made worse. Rumours abound that this is a short sighted measure to save on heating costs, I hope that is not the case, we have had enough poor decisions relating to education in the last few years. Give staff and students a decent break so they can start the new year with sufficient energy and enthusiasm to work to full their full potential.
- I think the kids need a long 6 week break between going up to another school year. It's worked up til now. They'd really notice if the summer holiday was reduced. As a child I loved the summer holidays - it would be a real shame to change it especially if the underlying reason is because of fining for holidays in term time. Keep it as it is.
- This causes issues where families live in different areas in the country where school holidays will no longer coincide. It also gives less options where parents are not together to take holidays with children. The children will not necessarily have much time to just relax at home ready to start the new school year prepared and ready to learn.
- I am against the proposal to shorten the summer holiday.
- A nine week summer term is far too long. Some schools manage to extend holidays with development days .
- I have no view on (4) because I do not agree with shortening the school summer holidays
- I feel quite strongly that the long summer holiday gives all families of all means the chance to have quality time as a family even if unable to travel off the island etc. An extra week during the autumn or spring is not such a great time to weather wise to have a UK holiday if you can't afford to travel overseas. I am speaking as someone who probably would benefit from a cheaper holiday abroad during this time but don't see it as fair for everyone. I also don't see the rationale regarding children's level of tiredness. You are simply taking a week off the summer holiday which means you make the term longer and then give them a two week holiday to recover. I am opposed to the change. I'd like to see some evidence to suggest that the proposed change would be beneficial to my children before agreeing.
- I don't want the summer holiday changed. Leave our children alone and let them enjoy their well deserved break. They need plenty of vitamin D from the sun to get them through the winter. Do something more worthwhile with your time for the island! Just how much is researching this stupid idea costing?
- It is going to be very difficult for any school staff that have to work at summer jobs, because of the low pay, to work in seasonal jobs. It could also affect places like Blackgang Chine and Robin Hill that rely on locals going during the holidays
- Ridiculous. Cold and rainy in february and dark and rainy In October. Long summer holidays is what most adults remember about being in school. Long may it continue
- Cold and wet in february. Cold and dark in october. No use to kids they need to be active outdoors in a long summer

- I think it would be too disruptive. Also if you had a two week half term in February it would play havoc with the spring term if Easter was especially early. The current duration of the summer holiday provides a nice long break to recharge between school years when the weather is at its best.
- Leave the holidays alone. It won't change the prices the holiday companies will just increase the prices for those weeks. Parents have to fight over the six weeks it will put more pressure on them

**Do you agree with shortening the school summer holidays to establish two, two week half term breaks; one in autumn and one in spring?**

Answer: No

Comments:

- A 9 week term is too long. Performance will drop and the best of the summer weather will be gone. Parents will be forced into taking holidays at the pinnacle of holiday prices and employees will all be vying with each other to take these few prime weeks off to be with their families.
- As a teacher- if there is only 4 weeks to recoup, and spend time with my children; with the ever increasing work load, that will be the final nail in coffin, and I, like many will resign from teaching. There is always the option for the council to allow teachers to take another 2 weeks unpaid- that may work.
- We are an out and about love the Island family, but we find it hard to find things to do when weather is rough for the week. Let alone two. Valuable educational time lost for the year 11 students with GCSE's looming every day at school matters! Two weeks at Easter is too much time away!
- You will get moans from the Island holiday trade who will want the kids to be off for the six week summer season.
- SEE PREVIOUS COMMENT
- Two weeks for half term is not needed in February as this term is already shorter. It would also mean that Year 11 students lose focus in the run up to their GCSEs, as they would have two lots of two weeks off of school fairly close to one another (Feb half term and Easter holidays). 4 weeks for the summer holidays is too short as teachers need this longer break, as do students. It makes sense for the students to be off school in the summer when there is more for them to do!
- As before
- The weather in February is not it's best, so a 2 week break then would create problems for parents having to entertain children
- An 8/9 week term at the hottest time of the year is crazy! Pupils cannot manage a 7/8 week term without exhumation at the best of times. Putting children into hot sweaty classrooms and expecting the best out of them at that point in the school year is ridiculous and will not help productivity of pupils and staff.
- Keep terms as they are now, but make sure that they all run from Monday to Friday to maximise the number of full weeks in the holidays.

- It would be harder and more expensive for parents to occupy their children during a two week February holiday whilst the weather is cold.
- The summer is a time to enjoy the island in better weather. The autumn and spring are too cold to enjoy beaches and children learn so much from being in nature. Do not shorten the summer holidays.
- School staff need the long summer holidays to recharge their batteries.
- Teachers need a longer holiday as they have planning and classrooms to sort out. A shorter holiday in the summer means a much shorter break for teachers
- See the previous comment. Plus - Extending the length of any half term is exhausting for students and teachers. A two week break would only mitigate the extra exhaustion created by an additional week of school.
- As before, people may vote for this under false impressions about cheaper holidays. Ridiculous and won't happen. I know my teaching workload will be adversely affected by such a change. Don't do it.
- see previous option
- As previously stated, both young children and teachers need 6 weeks in the summer.
- Given the amount of work most teachers complete in the summer holiday, I feel this would make the break too short for staff to have a proper rest.
- As a teacher I already work 4 weeks every summer. This would mean I get no break (I currently try to take 2 weeks). At this point I would resign as I work through every other holiday so it is the only break I get all year. Teachers would be too exhausted to go on this way.
- The spring terms are already short enough and often include bank holidays.
- We need a long summer break , for the purposes of a break and it's the one that we always look forward too. It's totally unnecessary to have 2 2week breaks and 1 4week.
- I need the summer holiday break to recover, it is the only time I can get away for a decent break and still get work done in prep for the new term.
- Since when has February been spring ??? I thought it was winter !
- Could we not have an extra week at xmas?
- As previously stated this would reduce the time frame for a holiday within Europe therefore increasing demand in a four week period. The spring (February break is particularly miserable as the weather is so appalling and there is nothing open on the island. There are very few families who want to take a break at this time of year unless they are the privileged few who can afford to ski.
- As per question 5
- Preposterous, get a grip and leave it alone!!!
- I do not agree with shortening the summer break
- Absolutely no to this! It will make family summer holidays more difficult and impact on coursework even more. Dreadful proposal.
- The spring terms are already a reasonable length of time, whilst the Summer Holiday is short as it is. To reduce that and disrupt learning with a two week break makes getting kids back into working patterns that much harder with little gain, also reduces significantly valuable time in school for covering exam material.
- This is a terrible idea



- less to do with children February and October, not nice weather etc! Would rather have 3 weeks over Easter
- 4 weeks is too short for the summer holidays
- Spring term can be quite short of Easter is early. This would make the summer term far too long.
- I prefer to have a longer summer holiday.
- If you did this. I wouldn't be sending my son back until September as we would be busy enjoying summer, nature and our beautiful landscapes. Not have him shut in a hot classroom in the height of summer. Do not do this!
- This made a 9 week summer half term which is too long without a break.
- 4 weeks? And this will stop families taking holiday during term time? I doubt it.
- The present summer holiday length gives staff time to reflect on previous cohort and rest, before preparing for the new one. As an ex HLTA, I know that we were shattered by July and needed every day of the 6 weeks to recuperate and feel ready to begin again. (Some years, it was not long enough) There would need to be serious changes to staffing and workload expectations throughout the year for this to work.
- Please don't do it. We need that time to prepare for next year and recharge our batteries.
- 4 weeks is nowhere near long enough for teaching staff to plan, prepare for following year and to recuperate and enjoy a holiday with family or friends.
- The children find one week off for 1/2 term difficult enough ... the pause in education isn't good & if it was extended to two weeks the catch-up would take too much time & valuable learning time will be lost
- I think the spring term is quite short due to various other times of year, so a one week half term is enough.
- It doesn't give teachers long enough to have a break themselves and get ready for the following year.
- Why not add an extra week onto the Christmas holiday? Two weeks isn't always long enough for people who spend time with family members they only see that one time a year, and then we would end up going back a little bit later in January, rather than a day or two into the new year
- It is colder and less to do these times of year, we prefer summer off and a week holiday in term time.
- Spring term is too short anyway and will impact on preparation for school events like global rock and IWMDD festival
- Five weeks gives the children a real opportunity to wind down & explore other opportunities and time with their families. Four, I feel, would leave the time a little too short. Lets see how Option One works before first before trying this.
- I certainly don't agree with this proposal. Personally, the current holiday arrangement is already appropriate. As I've mentioned previously, changing the holiday would affect parents with full time jobs. I work full time with at least 35 hours per week and with the current holiday arrangement, we can barely cope with child care during half term, so if two week half term was arranged, I don't think it would be acceptable as you either were forced to stop working which subsequently results in loss of income or to pay a lot of money for a child minder to look after your child during that period.

- as previously said I think key is having holidays outside normal holiday time in the summer months or going onto September. the issue of doing this will be for taking holidays cheaper and really this will mostly be regards European package holidays and having a 2 week holiday in Feb will reduce options. plus often mainland half terms are a different week to ours and therefore likely not to benefit from out of holiday prices
- Having two weeks in February is a waste of time. As a teacher I've just had two weeks off at Christmas and after half term will be due two weeks off at easter. I'll be stuck with a week off in cold and dark days having lost another week of my summer holidays in lovely weather when other people are off too.
- In a supposedly Christian society, there should still be some emphasis on our Christian ethos, hence the need to keep Easter special.
- As I said before, both spring and autumn half terms happen over two weeks nationwide, meaning that both are classed as school holiday weeks by holiday
- I do not agree with having a 9 week summer half term. This is an exceptionally long term, and with possible hot days, I feel it would not be conducive to learning.
- The length of terms are not consistent across the year. The length of the last term of 9 weeks in hot conditions has not be thought through for primary children.
- This is the worst proposal. Returning to school in August. No chance of a cheaper holiday away, no time to recover from the previous year and psychologically this is just too early. Decoupling from Easter makes a mess of the spring term. In the example given it means a 4 day weekend then 4 days back at school before the 2 week half term. This would be a frequent pattern and is very detrimental to learning. Also 9 weeks for the second half of the summer term is way too long. This shows no understanding of the lack of pupil resilience and no consideration for the exhaustion of teachers. Learning will diminish in the summer as well as the spring and 2 two week half terms make even more learning loss. All proposals make potential problems for families with pupils in more than one school where they may not all follow the same pattern. It also potentially makes supply work even more onerous with lack of coordination across schools and potentially large loss of holiday recovery time, even though this is unpaid for supply teachers. While the current system is not perfect the new proposals would create greater and more regular learning loss. To resolve the problem of overpriced holidays in school holiday time, the tourist industry needs to be reined in and limits set on their charges to make them fair and reasonable for everyone all year round. Starting with Red Funnel and Wight Link which are both utterly exploitative and only concerned with profits.
- As before brainless idea, summer is the place to live on the island it's not all about cheaper holidays abroad which would not happen anyway! The time to be outside is in the summer not winter or autumn
- See previous comments about availability of holidays in October and February. There is nowhere to go and nothing to do in February and October. Children can spend 6 weeks on the beach for free in the summer. 2 weeks in February will be very boring and potentially very expensive for parents to entertain children.
- 9 weeks in Summer 2 is too long. Teachers and pupils will be ill. Parents will take kids on holiday. Don't do this option.
- I think one half term of 2 weeks is fine

- As before but even worse for the summer. This would be quite a disaster for our family and anyone who works shifts or as part of a Rota.
- Children would miss out on the freedom of warm weather holidays and flexibility to see family during the summer if the summer break was reduced to four weeks.
- Absolutely ridiculous idea to have a nine week summer term, by week 7 children will be so tired they won't be learning much at all.
- Need the teachers to be fully refreshed.
- I would support a 2 week shorter summer break if the extra weeks were added to spring half term (June) and October. Not February!!
- Very against this idea. It's lovely for families to have a long flexible break in the summer where children can enjoy playing outside whilst the weather allows, two weeks when the weather is worst makes it a lot more expensive for parents to entertain the children and adds pressure to working parents to take more holidays through the year...
- I think having a shorter summer is fine but if both Autumn and Spring breaks were changed to 2 weeks and the summer 4 weeks then a 2 week holiday in May would be better as there would be a 9 week half term which would be very hard on the pupils who struggle with a 7 week term as it is. Also if the schools are having building works done during the summer holidays it would be difficult to get the works complete within 4 weeks. I am both a parent of children in school and a teacher in special needs school.
- As previous question. The Spring Terms are short anyway and the weather is almost always bad in February, so I do not see the benefits to having a two week break in February. Also, teachers still go into work in the Summer holidays, so reducing this for them will give them even less of a break.
- School staff are restricted to taking holidays during school holiday periods so shortening the Summer holiday to only 4 weeks removes any possibility for staff to undertake an extended holiday or visit to friends and family.
- The summer holiday is already shorter for teaching staff, We work at least 2 weeks of the holiday. A week at the end of summer term tidying the class and sometimes moving classrooms and again another week at the end of the holidays prepping for the next year. A 4 week break would not give teachers adequate time to recharge their batteries.
- My daughter goes away to see her Dad and I then wouldn't see her by the time I have worked in the summer
- See comments previously.
- The resulting 9 week summer 2 half-term is too long.
- Please remember that for working parents in a business environment that business do not have a half term holiday, even harder is to have a two week half term. In business you cannot just have a two week holidays. Christmas, Easter, Summer works as other businesses all around Europe also holiday at this time, so everyone is on holiday and business slows.
- I think the children need at least 5 weeks off for working parents to be able to organise at least 1 week off with them during summer. Limiting this to 4 weeks gives parent less opportunity to arrange work commitments and leads to more dissatisfied children stuck in childcare.
- As previous.
- No way. Awful idea and not one that is at all fair on teachers.

- I cannot see how this would be beneficial to the children. It only takes into account the families that can afford to go on holiday whether its in the holidays or not!
- Unpredictable weather means higher expense to entertain children.
- I do not agree to cutting the summer holidays below 5 weeks
- See comments for Option 1.
- This sounds like a childcare nightmare for working parents
- Leave it how it is. I need the holidays to be the same as mine
- Spring term too important educationally to shorten.
- As before.
- Again I don't understand the need for change.
- I feel that this option creates too long a second half of the summer term, when the weather can be very warm and the children are already very tired as they get towards the end of the school year.
- The Spring Term is short anyway and I feel students cope well with one week break in February.
- Even worse. I would consider moving elsewhere. Dreadful idea
- Children should have long summer holidays - when they have more chance of getting out in the sunshine & fresh air - in Oct & Feb the weather is typically bad so it will encourage them to sit indoors watching telly and playing computers rather than riding bikes, playing outside and generally being more active!
- Longer summer 2nd Half term and too short summer holiday
- I don't agree with the Summer Holiday being reduced by 2 weeks. This doesn't leave a substantial holiday and would negatively impact upon the learning environment in the lead up to the holiday, with a 9 week term! Which is just too long! I would struggle without a break and the added learning time to the term. If the holiday was to reduce by 2 weeks then the term time should be more evenly distributed. A 5 week term followed by a 9 week term doesn't make sense to me and will be a long and tiring second term! Especially in the lead up to the Summer Holiday's.
- Again no real benefit.
- Just plain awful. Spending the summer months stuck inside stuffy classrooms, with hot/tired children is a terrible idea.
- 4 weeks is too short a time for children to unwind from the stresses of school. The pressure to get results should not outweigh the importance of family time for children.
- I work in a school and feel as a member of staff we need the 6 weeks break in the summer and children do too, especially where we live to enjoy the summer on our beautiful Island. Tour Operators will soon realise if the holidays change and increase their prices accordingly
- See previous comments
- Because I want my children at school during the winter months
- A 5 week break for staff is sufficient to unwind for a week, relax for 3 weeks and then wind back up again for week
- I strongly disagree with this idea. A 9 week half term in the summer would be awful for children and teachers. As mentioned above, increasing the October and February half terms to 2 weeks each is unlikely to make family holidays cheaper as mainland schools already have different dates to us and the costs of holidays either side of half term is higher. This

would not help with affording family holidays!! I would much prefer time off with my children in the summer when we can enjoy the weather and everything that is brilliant about the low. Children being off for longer in the winter...(February is winter not spring) would be difficult due to the weather and so many things being closed.

- Again, the means more holiday at colder/wetter times of year so is a bad idea.
- Too much teaching time lost.
- Having a 9 week half term before the children break up for the summer would be too long to keep the children focused and working at working their best.
- Even worse than the previous proposal! See comments before. This in particular will strongly put teachers off from coming to work here, I know as a teacher who came here from the mainland. I definitely wouldn't have come to work here if the holidays were like this. Recruiting teachers is already hard enough here, you are going to make it much harder still with this, leading to even worse schools as they can't get any staff which become even less attractive to new teachers. Teachers and students need the summer break, leave it alone and stop meddling!
- Children need a good break in the summer when the weather is good.
- Not good times of year to have extended holiday. Most people can not afford package holidays to warmer parts of the world.
- I am concerned that the only people who will benefit from a two week half term break in February, would be affluent families, so they can have a skiing or Southern Hemisphere holiday.
- A 9 week half term would be detrimental to staff and children!!!!
- 4 weeks is too short for the summer holidays!
- I fundamentally disagree with this proposal. I see no benefit in making the changes. Having a two week break after the first half term will lead to a loss of educational academic progress and retention. I do not see the difference between 4 weeks and 6 weeks in the summer holidays and would like to see statistical evidence to back up claims from the council. I fundamentally disagree with this proposal. It may be beneficial to try and address some of the issues with our society and attitudes towards the importance of education rather than needlessly tinkering with holidays.
- We need a long break. We work most of it anyway and just manage to squeeze a break away in what we have already.
- Spring term is often already quite short due to how Easter falls so no need for a 2 week half term
- Please do not do this! This would be dreadful for the children. The weather would be awful for the half terms in autumn and spring and it would create a very long term. There would not be any attractions open so nothing to do with the children.
- Island businesses will be badly affected if the school holidays are so short. Children will be sat in classrooms in high temperatures rather than enjoying local activities. Also a 9 week working half term will be incredibly long and difficult for children and staff. I can already see the negative effects that this 8 week half term is having at the moment on the children. A short summer holiday will also make it harder for people to get time off work to spend with their family as they all fight over the same four weeks. As these proposed changes will only

apply to some Island schools it will make life difficult for those who have children across different schools and for parents who work in different schools to their children.

- This option leaves a half term of over 7 weeks, which is unacceptable.
- Think this will make the summer holiday too short for the staff and students.
- I feel that they last term being 9 weeks long would be too long a period for children of all ages and workers at that time of year to be able to function properly and adjust to.
- Long summer holidays, when the weather allows the children to be out and about in the fresh air.
- Not necessary at that time. Think the end of Spring term holiday should not be specifically around the time of Easter. The holiday should be better placed across the spring and summer terms to make them more even.
- The learning time for year 11 is crucial .
- Makes it harder to find childcare during half terms as there is more on in the summer
- Not keen on two weeks in February as weather cold and not many attractions open to take children.
- Definitely not. See previous comments,
- We don't need to have 2 weeks off in February
- Same reason as before
- Prefer autumn as Easter is two weeks
- 2nd summer half term would be too long at 9 weeks.
- As before.
- This feels like too much of a change especially the decoupling from Easter. It would potentially limit Island children in joining in with friends/family/organised national or regional activities.
- Holiday companies will just increase the cost of holidays on every week. People will STILL remove children from school during term time.
- I don't think shortening the summer holidays is a very good idea.
- The summer break would not be long enough for full recovery and preparation for the new term.
- I still feel a longer break in summer gives pupils and teachers alike time to revitalise. It is no mean feat to occupy children in February and October when the weather plays a large part of school holidays.
- Don't shorten the summer break.
- As previously stated.
- Extending feb hols is a waste of time as nothing open on the island and weather awful
- I would prefer to keep a longer summer holiday as the weather is better in the summer and it gives you chance to undertake courses like sailing or swimming etc.
- One of the reasons is that you say the children get tired during a longer term would this still be the case with a 9 week term
- This makes the summer term far too long. Better to have the terms as even as possible
- No learning advantage would occur by shortening an already short spring term.
- This would be even worse than the previous option, with only four weeks in the summer, holidays would be expensive and limited. It would be very disruptive for the continuity of education with so many long breaks throughout the year. Travel agents would soon increase

prices during the long half terms leaving us with a worse situation than now and encouraging more truancy.

- As before
- A 9 week second half of the summer holiday would be far too long. Also, 4 weeks is too short a summer holiday.
- A 9 week half term is much too long for both pupils and teachers.
- As above
- I strongly disagree with this proposal. It would put extra pressure on me at work since these are busy times for me.
- A 9 week summer half term is too long!!! The weather is good, let the kids enjoy it.
- Awful idea
- We normally have our better weather in the 6 week holiday which provides a really nice period of time for the children to unwind and enjoy all the island has to offer.
- Unnecessary. And students won't have time to get invested in the learning. For art students 5 weeks, 2 hours a week replicates their GCSE exam. For English- 5 hours a week for 5 weeks covers a full novel.
- I do not believe this will be of any benefit to children or parents and also creates additional childcare issues throughout the year. If the council were not bent on fining hard working parents for wanted to spend quality time with their children when it is affordable to do so, this would not be an issue in the first place. 5 days per year term time holidays is not an unreasonable request.
- February is dark and cold, no tourist attractions are open on the island anyway so for the families not going on holiday it will be a very long 2 weeks! At least in October you still have Robin hill and blackgang
- Keep it as it is
- A 9 week half term before the summer holidays will be too long for both staff and pupils.
- Please think about the childrens needs and not whats convenient for anything but. I know parents go on about their children drive them mad after a few weeks off or they get bored but I think they need that time out.
- We enjoy the opportunities that arise in a longer break in the Summer to travel and spend extended time with family.
- I do not believe that this is the solution to raising standards in education or attendance on the IOW.
- The proposal needs to be considerate of teaching time available pre exams at ks1 ks2 and gcse etc. 8 week terms are too long - teaching loses focus and the children lose concentration. Teachers equally are exhausted and staff sickness increases. The final week before Christmas 2017 was a virtual write off for meaningful learning.
- The impact of losing 2 weeks in the Summer, when mainland and private schools are still on break and (hopefully) holidaying on the Island makes this idea unworkable. Student staff would need to return to school during times employers are still needing them and parents who work longer hours during the busier summer in seasonal trade would be further burdened with school routine, packed lunches, homework chivvyng etc etc.
- I don't think option 2 is a good idea as it will be extremely tiring for teachers and children. As a teacher, with the growing expectations and stress we have during

- The longer summer holidays are needed by staff and pupils to give them all good rest and allow for travel if wanted
- Teachers are exhausted! Demoralising to only have 4 weeks! Sounds like a lot of holiday if you aren't a teacher, but having worked in both the private and public sector, it doesn't feel long enough. The council should consider the number of sick days taken by teachers. We need 5 weeks.
- It is unnecessary to further reduce the summer holiday to allow for two two week term breaks. The existence of a long summer holiday is important for parents and children to spend quality time together and enjoy the nicer weather. Fewer weeks in the summer break would make it more difficult for working parents to schedule annual leave from work places where many other parents also wish to take a week off in summer.
- 4 weeks is not long enough. Students need time to re charge.
- This would be fine but the idea of a 9 week term- as a teaching assistant is incredibly daunting.
- This still leaves some short terms. The summer break will be very short.
- I think this would make childcare for working parents even harder. Also the British weather being as it is then having 4 weeks off in cold/ wet February and October would not be great. There's loads to do on the island during the summer months so best to keep most holiday weeks for then.
- I don't believe that changing the school term dates will reduce the number of children having term time holidays nor will it impact on children's progress or achievement within school. We live in a beautiful place which is at it's absolute best and most enjoyable during the Summer months- which should be cherished by Island children, teachers, staff and families.
- We look forward to the summer holidays and believe the children need this break from school. To enjoy summer.
- I mention by reasons for both in the previous question.
- Do not want this
- Summer is my favourite time of year to be out and about in the island with my kids, and they get so much from it. It would be such a shame to lose two weeks of that.
- More targets, more expectation, unrealistic work load and then you reduce the amount of time before SATs? Ridiculous idea.
- Two weeks in February is not valuable, maybe the school year should be a week longer. The summer holiday is too long.
- The current situation should remain
- As a teacher we spend much of the holidays planning and preparing our classrooms so this would effectively give us no break from teaching the children or the high level of stress from the previous year.
- It's better to have more time out of school when it's hot, than two weeks in cold February.
- I don't believe the summer break affects education. Children are ready for the summer break. Development days could be added to Autumn term and even out term irregularities: this would address any issue with long term times for kids. Not really concerned about staff getting tired. We all get tired but have to manage our approach to work! Most families



cannot afford the luxury of holidays abroad therefore what is this change going to achieve apart from cost?

- Completely stupid idea. The only time weather is good is June July, I can never get holiday in October and February and struggle with child care. Maybe people on benefits would benefit of it but not full working parents
- 4 weeks is not enough for teachers. They have classrooms to prepare and planning and resourcing. This would mean very little summer break for teachers who work very long hours during term time so need a break in holiday time. The spring term is fine how it is. It is the autumn term that's long. The summer term 2 is also very long but it's followed by a long holiday so that works ok.
- This means that the summer 2nd half term is 9 weeks and I feel that it is a long time to be in a learning environment without a break for both teachers and pupils alike.
- We need the summer to have a break but also we need to plan for the new school year, tidy classrooms, put up displays etc.
- The 6 weeks holiday are a welcome break for the children. Too many half terms just impact on trying to find childcare whilst working
- I feel 4 weeks is a little too short for summer holidays and there is more balance with 5 weeks and a longer autumn break, the February half term seems to come quickly and rapidly Easter break follows
- See previous comments.
- Yes it's not needed nor wanted. Give the children the long summer break they deserve.
- Think 9 week term is a lot for children and teachers to do. Otherwise it would have been a good option but not fair on those who work in the schools.
- No need for 2 weeks in Feb. Adjust the Easter break instead to balance out the year better. Easter holiday doesn't have to be around the Easter weekend.
- Most certainly don't agree with this. They need a long switch off or the school years will just roll on and into each other.
- October needs to stay to one week and the summer to 5 weeks then late Feb to 2 weeks
- Please see previous comments regarding the summer holiday. I believe it is important to retain this as is.
- The Spring term is short enough, and this would make the Summer term far too long!
- Our children spend enough time in the classroom let them enjoy their summer!!!
- As a teacher 4 weeks is not a long enough break. Half of the six weeks at least is spent doing school work anyway so that would leave only one week for relaxing and for family time.
- Difficulty with getting away in 4 week period for teachers and parents.
- As above comment.
- As a teacher this does not provide enough time to spend a week preparing your classroom and then at least a week doing prep and having a proper break before starting the new year
- The same as the previous opportunity to comment! This completely ruins the long summer holiday, which we love and benefit from.
- This option would result in the loss of two important weeks' exam preparation prior to GCSE and A Level exams. The 6 week summer holiday is needed to fully wind down from the stresses of the academic year and provides a sense of 'closure' for both students and staff.

Shortening this length of time will result in both staff and students losing this important 'process'.

- See before
- Summer holidays have not been 6 weeks in length for many years so reducing the summer by 2 weeks will not leave 4 weeks unless you can guarantee a minimum of 4 weeks
- As above. Year 6 and 11 cannot afford vital time away from school. Every minute matters!
- As before. As a teacher of GCSE classes I need my students in school in Feb to prepare for exams. They already have two weeks off at Easter. Totally illogical and WILL have an impact on exam results.
- Extending at rubbish (weather wise) times of the year what are we supposed to do with children if not going abroad at these times?
- I value the quality time spent with my children in the summer holidays. I feel that an extra week in Autumn or Spring would not be used so actively or outdoors.
- This proposal is dire and clearly thought up by those not used to the public examination system - leaving only 2 weeks between break up and A level results and a week more for GCSE results means tired, stressed teachers and especially senior staff. Many teachers like to be there for their students at this time. Choose this option and the results halls will not have staff to support students there and will drive teachers to alternate places. Everyone needs a good break and 2 weeks before results will not provide this.
- Same as my previous comment regarding option one.
- Stupid idea don't do it
- Summer holidays are the only perk for teachers. It is already hard to recruit on the IOW so taking this away would make it even harder to attract teachers.
- Would not give families flexibility to undertake long holidays away. Children need to be off school when weather is good - more time outside, more vitamin D = healthier children. They need a long summer break. I would absolutely be against only a 4 week summer break.
- This is not a good enough time off for anybody and it means that those teachers who come in to school for results will never have time away from school. It will mean less time to visit friends and family off island as there will be no time to de-stress and enjoy with family.
- As a secondary school teacher we need to be in college on results days over the summer and to support admissions as well so shortening the summer break would make this holiday period more difficult.
- The long summer holiday is important for many families to have that time together therefore I wouldn't want it reduced to less than 5 weeks.
- Same reasons as previous.
- Four weeks is not long enough. Our children use local 'tourist' facilities and attractions too.
- The children and teachers will not get enough time off if it's reduced to four weeks. Children need time to unwind spend time with family and to learn that you can cope when not in a routine as you are day in day out on a school day. Also learn those life skills they do not get in school. Teachers need the break. Their work load is immense. Only having four weeks we not give them time to enjoy a holiday. After two weeks their laptop is back on and they are back in school preparing for September. Give them a break. Also you can not expect children to do a nine week term. Especially at the end of the summer term. That is far too

long especially for 4,5 and 6 year olds. Even my daughter who is 12 is absolutely shattered after a 7 week term let alone a 9 week one!!!!

- Preparation for exams in the summer would adversely effected. i.e. teaching weeks before exam period would be reduced
- As a teacher I think the 9 week half term will be far too long for both teachers and children. Also with the stresses of the job, a 4 week holiday will not be long enough to recoup and be fresh and ready for the next year. As a parent I think that my child would also suffer from this change. As the terms stand, she gets extremely tired and would struggle with a 9 week one, especially at the end of a hard year.
- This would make the summer term seem too short. As we are blessed by our surroundings it seems a shame to lose out too much here.
- School holidays should be left as they are
- Same as before
- Don't see the need for a two week Feb holiday. Easter can be as early as March so do not see the need for that length break.
- No. The children need a longer break in the summer. This allows them time to recharge and be better prepared for School in September. Children need a proper break from learning if they are to be able to do their best and to achieve. Also regarding holidays..many parents have jobs that fit around the current holidays. Suddenly reducing the summer holiday by 2 weeks could cause a lot of problems for many families. Reduce it by 1 week and then when families have adjusted to this, reconsider dropping it by a further week but this should not be done in one go. You need to make changes this big in a more gradual way. 5 weeks for a summer break is much better for the children and gives them quality time with their families. 4 weeks is not long enough. Thank you.
- 4 weeks is too short. Most families really look forward to summer. If you could hold it at 5 weeks and extend the half term too (shorten school year by 5 days) that would be a better option.
- Both half terms are in colder months. The island does not have a lot to offer in colder months
- I feel this would make the summer too short especially if you are a teacher and are working for at least 2/3 weeks of the Summer!
- Crazy idea the island needs the tourists to survive. Many people have more than one job so the longer hols are needed
- This breaks up the school year too much. People want the long summer break so they can enjoy the sunshine and take extended opportunities to travel.
- It would be, in my opinion, tragedy for school children.
- Diabolical proposal. Teachers need a long summer to recover from the stress of the school year. As it is, they spend half the holidays planning and sorting out their classrooms. You are already struggling to recruit. You are going to push many more over the edge and out of the profession with this proposal. Children need time to be children. The summer is the time when they can play outside for hours and develop their imaginations, exploring the local environment. I know this because I was one once. What do you think children will do in the darkness of 2 week February and October half terms? I know, let's stick them on a computer for endless hours learning their times tables. Brilliant.

- The second half of the summer term is too long.
- I don't really want a two week holiday in February! Seems they have only just gone back after Christmas and the weather is not so good.
- A 9 week half term at the end of the school year with not be beneficial to any child, school employee or parent. Child are tired at this point in the year, as are school staff.
- See my previous remark: don't do it!
- See my previous comments.
- If Feb half term is six weeks after a two week Christmas break, then I think a one week break for this is sufficient. I don't think any terms should stretch to 7 weeks.
- This option meant that there would be an 8/9 week school term, which in my opinion is far to long for children (and teachers) to be at school. The children become disengaged and worn out, minimalising the amount of learning they achieve. Teachers alike, become very run down and end up being burnt out after a long term of 8/9 weeks. They can't provide quality teaching if they are run down due to a longer term.
- As a teacher, the longer summer break is so valuable as an opportunity to recharge and increase my wellbeing. It usually takes two weeks to properly unwind from the job and then you prepare for the new term during the last couple of weeks of the holiday. Also, I feel that breaking up the school year with further breaks could have a negative impact on children's learning. This authority needs good teachers. Rather than attracting them to come and work here, or even retain many of the already great teachers who work here already, I think shortening the summer break would deter them. I, for one, along with a number of colleagues I know, may even consider moving to a different authority.
- As previously stated i strongly do not agree for the following reasons: - autumn term there is not much going on in the iow to entertain children especially those families with low income (pupil premium) - spring term has a high amount of coursework being worked on which would cause major issues on the quality and quantity of coursework handed in.
- Not if the outcome is a 9 week second part of the term...this goes directly against the initial justification of altering term times in Autumn, where 8 weeks is too tiring...
- The feb half term is short enough as it is and shouldnt be made shorter
- I like a long summer break just one week initially would be a good trial
- Not a good idea. Teachers and students need a good break in the summer and indeed look forward to it. Prep time takes time which would mean teachers have even less time to rest. Bad plan. Our teachers are under enough stress.
- Informal childcare for primary school age children can be easier to arrange in the summer holidays eg university students on holiday. Finding holiday childcare the rest of the year can be more difficult.
- Students and teachers need the longer break
- See previous comments - staff will leave as this is a very controversial proposal.
- Teachers would leave the profession or move as has happened elsewhere in the country. The IoW already has problems with teacher recruitment and retention.
- Will not help with creating cheaper summer holidays for parents. Unless school holidays are consistent across all schools, there will be problems created where parents have pupils in different schools, eg the free school and an LA controlled Primary school. The holiday dates need to be consistent across all schools.

- Making the 2 half summer term 9 weeks would be unbearable
- Not very workable for this family anyway
- Absolutely not!! For the reasons before stated!! Dreadful idea!! Would be very disruptive for both terms concerned, and very limiting for staff and families alike to shorten the summer holiday
- February is closer to the Easter holidays and it's a short term especially if the Good Friday holiday is before the 2 weeks holiday.
- A nine week 'half' term is too long
- Children don't want more holiday in cold weather
- Summer break too short and time is not needed in February
- stress levels in the world go up
- Having extra time off school in the Spring and Autumn wouldn't be ideal as at these times the weather is extremely cold and so us students can't do a whole lot during those times. Having the full Summer holiday means that we can do more and the weather would be warmer meaning we can go outside more.
- The weather is often bad in these two months and for GCSE's this is inconvenient because of study.
- no cuz the summer is nice and hot and I like my holidays in the summer
- It has been proposed by someone who has a business interest in reducing the summer break. No one has asked for this. Teachers should be having development days during the school breaks rather than term time. My child didn't start school until 08/01/18 and previously she broke up early for the summer holiday due to so-called teacher training days.
- I think the summer break is when the weather is nicest and id rather have a longer break in nice weather.
- Why would you want to cut two weeks off our summer holiday when it is hot and nice outside when you have ugly weather in the half terms when you can have nice weather in the summer holidays having fun at home and about at home.
- Its the same as the last question. Its ridiculous. Doing this will FURTHER emphasise my point that it will feel like a big half term break and not a holiday and cause stress about going back or other issues such as their holidays for a 5 week vacation to say hawaii would be canceled due to this new rule causing the family to have wasted their money
- I think it would get in the way of exams and learning
- no one will be happy being in school in the summer.
- Don't do it! It's ridiculous. It's fine how it is now.
- EXTRA CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY!
- I would not like to reduce the summer holidays because I go on two holidays each summer and it would not be possible because of shortening it.
- HAVE A TWO WEEK HOLIDAY ANYWAY M8TERINO
- By taking away 4 weeks, the students will probably been really annoyed that they get such a short break.
- keep it how is it
- Because I would like our normal 6 week holiday.
- no I don't agree because I like long holidays in august to enjoy sun and get ready for a new life

- again it would be sill after all there is GCSE and A levels coming up.
- because we don't have much holidays
- I don't want it to change :(
- I think its a bad idea because if people want to go on holiday the wont be able to and it I don't want to be sat at home if it got shorter then if it just the same we will go outside at get exercise because you need can keep you healthy. :(
- it would mean that parents and kids would be stuck inside when it is cold
- I like having a 6 week holiday because you can enjoy it and you get a long break from school because the other ones are to short.
- how do all the parents fit all the holiday leave off at the same time it will be like Paris and the business will slow up in August. if every family is away at same time.
- I like a long break in the summer. So does my daughter. Plus the weather in February can be poor so it's a bad time to have an extra week off.
- Just shorten the summer holiday no extra longer half terms children need to be at school more not off 14 weeks a year bank holidays and teacher training days Teacher trading days should be in school holidays only
- The only thing is the very long last half term of nine weeks, could be very tiring.
- Shortens the peak season for holiday attractions
- See question 5
- the summer break serves many purposes and reducing it to 3/4 wks is not helpful to teachers/schools who need that time.
- Teachers work during the holidays so I order for them to get classrooms ready, plans made etc they won't get much of a break and a less incentive for getting new people to become teachers.
- Shortening the summer break would put additional stress on parents trying to arrange family holidays. Many struggle to get time off in the current system. Having to compete with colleagues for annual leave with only four weeks to choose from would mean many loosing out.
- I think, depending on where Easter falls the half term blocks are roughly even and 5wks in summer is good
- They shouldn't shorten the summer school holidays. The sunshine ?? is good for children
- For those who work in tourism these proposals will not help them
- I feel a 9 week summer half term is too long for the children to cope with in the heat of the summer, especially when full uniforms (including blazers) are still to be worn.
- Completely disagree, the term lengths are fine as they are and kids love having 6weeks off at summer
- If I think shortening the summer holiday by one week is a bad idea, I think shortening it by two is a terrible one. 3-4 weeks simply is not enough time during the summer. If you don't believe me, try and get a class of 30 14 year olds to concentrate on Pythagorus or the history of medicine for the last week of July and the first week of August. That just isn't feasible.
- Absolutely terrible idea! Will cause great problems when trying to link up with family with children in other council areas.
- I feel this would make the summer term too long with children having to concentrate for longer in hot conditions.



- Children need a long summer holiday to properly return to 'childhood'. I find mine take two weeks to unwind and the final week is preparation and anticipation of returning. The three weeks in the middle are when mine are relaxed and become far more creative and imaginative in their play. With all imposed on them, it is difficult enough to be just children.
- If the summer holiday is only four weeks I think there will be a lot of absences with students going on family holidays
- Even worse! No teacher is going to want to come and work here with a 4 week holiday, I say that as a teacher who came here from the mainland. Recruitment is already a big issue here, you are going to put schools in crisis if you do this - nobody wants it.
- Two, two week half term breaks from January during the spring term would affect the children's lead up to KS 2 and results would be lower
- I am extremely concerned by the well-intentioned yet, in my opinion, misguided proposals to change the school holiday distribution on the Isle of Wight. 'The summer dip' in standards has been quoted as one of the reasons for shortening the summer holiday, but it is highly misguided to think that two week half terms will not have a negative impact on children's achievement. In particular, it would be extremely unhelpful for exam year groups to have a two week break in February, in addition to the longer Easter holiday just before their exams, as the Spring term is a vital time for preparation to meet the expected standards. Teachers are likely to end up setting holiday homework to try to compensate for this. Such compulsory homework would not normally be set during the summer holiday, so would therefore result in additional erosion of children's free time. It is also important to recognise that the extended summer holiday is a unique opportunity for teachers to fully refresh after a summer term, which for many is extremely pressurised due to exam preparation and delivery, exceptionally time consuming and rigorous teacher assessments, end of term productions, residential visits, awards evenings and parent meetings –all involving many additional hours of work in the evenings –as well as numerous other activities and commitments. This holiday is of sufficient length to allow teachers the opportunity to travel abroad for extended periods of time –if so desired – or engage in other experiences which not only result in the ability to fully unwind, but also ultimately lead to being more interesting classroom practitioners. In addition to this, teachers also have the time to review their practice for the year ahead -reading widely, discovering and creating new resources and putting in place fresh, dynamic planning suited for the new year group and making plans to improve the classroom environment. Further to this, it is an important time for children to be able to enjoy freedom and relaxation after a highly pressurised term. Considering the demands of the new curriculum, the pressures of exams and the rising concerns regarding mental health of our young people, the importance of this stress-free period of time cannot be underestimated. A further consideration is that the proposed changes to holidays will also result in increased pressure on working parents throughout the year to make suitable childcare arrangements. Finally, as an extremely experienced Year 6 teacher, there is no doubt in my mind that these changes would lead to a drop in Year 6 SATs achievement –which given our current situation would be disastrous for the Island.
- The extremely long summer term would be detrimental to the progress of students as concentration levels decrease as students focus on outdoor and extra-curricular activities.
- It may be counterproductive to be too different to the standard holidays - family and friends on the mainland would have very different breaks and it would make it harder to meet up?



I would not be adverse to it however, I would be more inclined to tick the 'happy either way' box if there were one!!

- We would prefer two weeks at the Summer half term but this is not possible so keep 5 weeks in the summer
- Children should have a proper break in the Summer so the children that can't go away for half term holidays can actually enjoy spending time outdoors. It's often impossible in October or February with constant rain, wind etc.
- The summer term time should remain the same in order for children that are transitioning to a different school have a good break before entering a new school environment. Teachers also need the break before returning back to work to prepare for the new school year and have the only long break that does not involve preparation, marking etc. Views of some teachers are that the change could be the decision between continuing in the profession due to the stress of the workload within the school year and not being able to relax with their own families.
- 4 weeks would be far too short.
- This would be a terrible option as it would mean holidays in the winter.
- Reducing term time in the spring term reduces the time for assessment preparation, possibly impacting on outcomes.
- As previously stated, shorten summer holidays and leave the half terms as they are. 17 weeks off from school each year is far too much.
- Coursework and examination results would be adversely affected with this model as it limits the opportunity for mock exams and other worthwhile
- the spring term is already too short esp when preparing for SATs and other external tests
- Two 5-week terms in the new year followed by a 9-week term will feel very unbalanced.
- No because in the summer the term will be too long for the children..
- Parents will still take holidays in school term due to expense and holiday industry on the IOW
- The optimum length of time for a half term is 6 weeks. As a primary school teacher, as well as a parent of secondary age children, I know that after the fifth week the children become very tired, more susceptible to illness as do staff. The proposal for a final summer half term of 9 weeks followed by a 4 week summer holiday is preposterous. As a teacher, I spend up to a week in school at the beginning and end of the holidays preparing my classroom, as well as time at home planning and preparing for the new school year. A four week holiday would leave me with just two weeks 'down time'. It has become increasingly hard to attract teachers to the Isle of Wight in recent years. A four week summer holiday in which to attempt to recover from a nine week term will make this even worse. Local Isle of Wight businesses will also suffer as IOW school children will only be using their facilities, services, many of which are only open in the summer, for just 4 weeks instead of 6.
- History tells us that the Isle of Wight Council's radical ideas about schooling rarely benefit children, the removal of middle schools for example.
- It would make the last summer term too long.
- Nothing should be changed. It's fine as it is! As a former pupil myself and all my friends loved that we have a long summer and a week for half term is fine. And with my children nearly at

school I would want them to have a long break to relax, enjoy playing and being children. Gives parents plenty of time to do activities.

- This would make the summer holiday too short.
- Would like to see a 2 week October break but feel 2 weeks in February would be too long.
- Teaching in the summer months is difficult enough as it is due to the heat in the classroom. By having students in school, knowing that other students their age are on holiday, could create behavioural problems
- Provide the time for children to experience the world. Many families take the opportunity of the Summer break to undertake longer holidays which are a great learning experience for children. I appreciate that not all families have this option but others do. Allow children the chance to enjoy their holiday time without shortening it unnecessarily. Let kids be kids. With increased consistency, revision strategies and teaching techniques, content can be reviewed quickly before continuing with a course/topic.
- On both a professional and personal level I am totally opposed to any such proposed change. Firstly as a teacher, the one week half term is an opportunity to catch up on marking and planning which the current national educational arrangements do not allow for within a normal working week/term. I do not view half terms as a break from teaching and extending them by a week will not achieve this. The two week Easter break does not provide me with a break, as again this is taken up by catch up work. The longer summer 'holiday' does provide me with a break. However, it is only because of the length of the 'holiday' This is because the first week is usually spent tidying up outstanding work and the final two weeks spent planning, preparation and analysing exam results. Therefore the long 'holiday' transpires to provide a two week break from the work commitment. Any shortening will eat into this and reduce my capacity to recharge my battery. Secondly, as a parent of six children, all of whom have moved onto university through Island Schools, the summer break was essential for them to relax and escape from the considerable pressure they were put under at all stages of their education. In my opinion, they did not suffer as a result of a long break, Indeed, if there was any meaningful evidence supporting the detrimental nature of a long break, the independent education sector would produce very poor results, as their summer holidays are significantly longer than any state school or academy. Dare I suggest that class sizes have far more effect on student attainment than an extra week off in the summer holiday. Finally, as a tourist centre, many students actually gain meaningful employment during the summer holiday. We are told constantly how work experience is essential to the development of young adults and how businesses repeatedly bemoan the lack of this. An actual summer job is far more relevant in this development than the often meaningless 'work experience weeks' offered by secondary schools.
- The summer weather is when children spend more time playing outside. By changing holidays to April and October will mean children are more likely to be spending more time indoors as the weather is less inclement.
- The Spring term is already a short one so doesn't need to be broken up any more. Keep 5 weeks for Summer holidays for the better weather and potential outdoor activities.
- I would hate this, and so would my children. Summer holidays are the only opportunity they have to completely relax, and I cherish this time with my children.
- don't change something that has always worked!

- Four weeks isn't long enough for the children to feel fully rested and ready for a new school year. They need the summer to lose themselves in non school activities or to just explore and entertain themselves in an unstructured way, which is shown to be just as important as the structure of school
- As I commented in the last section, I feel that this will affect tourism around the Isle of Wight. The summer holidays being the prime time for tourism and to take time away from that would be very detrimental. Nobody wants to go to the beach in October or February! Those two months are cold, dark and depressing. Give the kids their summer!
- The spring term is vitally important to pupils taking exams, whether they be SATs, GCSEs etc. They cannot afford any more time off in the spring or summer term.
- A 9 week term time is far too long for pupils and teachers. By week 7 everyone is tired grumpy and not concentrating.
- I think this makes the summer term too long, I already have problems getting two weeks summer leave from work during 6 weeks holiday so would make it even harder if not impossible
- The weather in England is usually not good in February so in the UK. the children would most likely be stuck in doors on their technical gadgets rather than outdoors keeping fit! Not totally against it but the week in the summer could be more beneficial for outdoor pursuits,
- A 9 week term is too long, especially for children with learning difficulties in mainstream schools. They get very tired towards the end of term due to the extra effort to retain knowledge.
- Teachers work extremely hard through the year, working through holidays and weekends and late into the evening. During the summer holiday, the first week is usually spent in school taking down old displays and moving classrooms. The last week is spent going back into school and setting up for the new year. If the summer holiday were to be 4 weeks long, teachers would only have a 2 week break.
- An extra week in June rather than October. Children could get out to the beach and walks with their family
- I think 2 week half terms are too long. I'd prefer the weeks added to the Christmas and Easter holidays
- I think the momentum for learning will be lost. It is commonly accepted by most teachers that the majority of teaching and learning occurs in the Autumn and Spring terms, the Summer term is often prep for exams (even in Primary!) or gives opportunity for more outdoors activities.
- A 4 week summer break would not be long enough for the children to have a proper break. As the weather is generally better in the school holidays it makes sense to keep them at least 5 weeks rather than 4 as there is more to do in the summer, rather than having more time off when the weather is worse and there is less to do.
- A 9 week term is much too long
- If the half term is too short learning journeys are affected. Families also don't generally want to go away in February. Due to assessment points of Hampshire phase this wouldn't be helpful.
- Having a 9 week summer 2 term is not good, children struggle with 7 and 8 week term.
- It makes the summer holidays too short.

- As per my last comments. The kids need a long break between going up to the next school year.
- I am very strongly against this option. A 4 week summer holiday would not allow time for pupils to have a decent break from school, to take part in school holiday events (eg national sports events that may fall outside of the 4 week period) and will limit opportunities for extended trips to foreign countries over this period.
- It will make the summer term far too long and autumn term
- I strongly oppose this. I have moved to the island recently with my young children precisely for the lifestyle it gives us especially over the summer period. To take away some of the precious holiday time with my children would be very upsetting.
- No, why on earth are you suggesting this and what difference will this make?
- 4 weeks is not enough time for teachers to have a break and set up their new classroom.
- I think and know that for most people, the summer break is a good length to allow a complete refresh, rather like having a short sabbatical or adventure training. Students, teachers, parents all need time de-coupled from the pressure and anxiety of constant assessment. If the summer holidays go to four weeks, I could see that some of my colleagues would further consider leaving teaching, because the long summer break is a definite advantage of teaching. I tend to go away for many weeks and sometimes for all 6.
- How daft. The rest of the country has 6 weeks the continent has 8 weeks.
- Summer term 2 is too long.

**Do you agree with shortening the school summer holidays to establish two, two week half term breaks; one in autumn and one in spring?**

Answer: Yes

Comments:

- I would still want to see Easter reflected as a religious holiday.
- This option would be beneficial to the children in terms of tiredness levels and therefore increased productivity. Also would help working parents to spread to leave to cope with the holidays and reduce childcare costs keeping more parents in Work.
- Better for families to plan breaks away, particularly those who work in the tourist industry.
- This would only work if there is child care provision on the Island to cover these periods.
- more options to go away and significant reduction in child care costs as more flexible in taking leave
- This will allow flexibility in booking holidays as long as the holiday companies don't bump up the prices in the holidays as they currently do,
- I work in tourism and cannot take significant time off in school holidays. If option 2 was in place I would be able to take time off in October and Feb when mainland schools are not off. Also there will be the benefit of a slightly cheaper holiday.
- I quite like the idea - but the half terms are more uneven with this proposal.
- Even better idea.
- This should not result in any terms being significantly longer than others.

- his is my preferred option, the summer holidays are too long currently.
- It's often difficult for families to find childcare for 6 weeks, 4 is more achievable. Again , children's progress would not slip back so much as it does with the current 6 weeks break. The options of two two week holidays gives families more flexibility around holidays. .
- I think this is by far the best option
- Fab plan
- I wholly support a shorter summer holiday but would urge you to consider changing the terms to include 2 x 2/52 half term holidays: one in the october (autumn term) and one in may/june (summer term) rather than february (spring) Both terms are far too long for both pupils and staff alike. We cannot expect them to be at the top of their game (teachers and pupils!) for longer than 5-6/52 at a time. I believe further options should be considered before changes are made. Whilst we may not prevent term time holidays, this would go a long way to improving attendance.
- Better for child care and chances for holidays over more school holidays
- I'm just wondering why it has to be a 9 week half term?
- Would like the two week holiday on the may half term break
- Same as option one...children and school staff need a break....8week terms are way too long!!
- as long as there is extra after school clubs for seasonal working families
- A shorter break will mean children won't forget what they've learnt prior to the Summer holidays.
- Not keen on having to work a longer 9 weeks for the second half of the summer term.
- As before - Children always slip back against their end of year assessments after a 6 week break.
- By evening it out makes children with extra learning difficulties easier to understand routine than having the odd week here and there
- I think this is the better option of the two
- Same as above
- As I have mentioned we support any shorting of summer holidays due to working ill time
- Four weeks off in summer instead of six will, I think, be much better for learning. Six weeks is far too long
- It would help parents manage child care and also stop the dip in progression because of the long holidays. A lot of families in various areas of the island do no work with the children over the summer. Shorter summer break would help with this.
- Would it not be better to have an extra week over the Christmas period as a parent who works Christmas day and comes from a family who Christmas Day is another working day it would be nice to share a longer time with loved ones over this time of the year
- This is a brilliant idea. It is my preferred option.
- this would help lots of families who work int he holidays and redue childcare costs
- As previous, positive for holiday cost and reducing the need for 6 weeks childcare for some parents.
- Undecided about this one, as previously stated it would spread the cost of holiday club childcare across more months, and as I use my leave for the rest of the school holiday

childcare, it may make me consider taking more regular leave, which would be more beneficial to my wellbeing (rest) and my child's (regular quality time)

- Makes more sense
- Obviously this can't be in May owing to the GCSE & A level timetable.
- This is by far the best option it reduces the stress around the family getaways and childcare. But it may be beneficial to create 8 weeks either side of the 4 week summer holidays because 9 weeks is a very long term for all involved. Perhaps also allow schools a week in between for 'out of class' activities, children still go to school for the set times but have a break from school work and choose activities set out by each school, providing learning experiences but with practical fun activities, which children respond to very well. An in school break.
- My work is seasonal, I work full time from May to September. Finding childcare for 6 weeks is a nightmare. I have to take my daughter out of school for holidays, so having 2 weeks in October and February would mean I would not have to.
- I suppose this would even things out a bit?? The summer holiday is long but then again it did me no harm having long holidays in the summer, but I guess boredom could set in and perhaps that is where the trouble starts?
- This is a good idea in respect of reducing the summer break but will families/ struggle to entertain their young people when the weather may be more inclement in February.
- This is the best option
- This is an even better idea than the one of shortening by one week.
- Please see my earlier comments.
- As my comment before, 6 weeks is far too. Also this enables children and teachers to have more effective 'rest' periods throughout the year. I also think this proposal will help working parents who struggle with child care arrangements for the long summer holiday period. Finally I think this could help reduce term time holiday absences as parents would have a longer period to take their child on holiday which would hopefully be at a cheaper price for them.
- Either option would be good.
- To add one of the weeks to start of the Christmas holidays as I stated before. More to do as a family especially if you want to go away to visit family or have Christmas away.
- But not with a 9 week term right at the end of the academic year! This would not be beneficial for pupils or staff as that part of the year is a struggle for everyone in school already! Energy levels are low and people are ready to move on to the next academic year.
- As per previous comments the wellbeing, attainment, and also the access to parents of variable incomes to family holidays. Deprived families miss out because of the strictness of rules. Life is for loving not just education, and having a regular break and being able to apply that learning respects family choices and reinforces learning and skills at home more regularly. The system is currently very inflexible and does need to modernise, sustainably. This would be a good first step.
- I agree with a 4 week summer holiday but I don't agree with option 2. I think to move the Easter holiday away from the bank holidays would create more of a problem for families. Option 2 also makes for a long summer term.

- I like the shorter summer holiday as I feel 4 weeks is long enough for the children to be out of formal education. I like the even spacing of the holidays.
- Holidays are spread out evenly, meaning term lengths are better for children, particularly young children who really struggle with tiredness. A shorter summer break will also help with loss of skills thus encouraging greater learning on all ages.
- Great get on it asap. Why wait. Let's make some progress
- same as before
- This gives more flexibility to take a holiday over a week.
- I think it would benefit both children and parents shortening the summer holiday. It is disruptive and making a longer break at Christmas enables families to visit family whom live away more easily.
- 9 week half term for summer is too long
- As a tourist business owner we get virtually no family time during school holidays so have no choice but to take our children out during school time for holiday when the business is quietest (usually January or November). It has nothing to do with costs of holidays just practicalities
- Think this is a much more practicle option. Makes costs for holiday care/time more manageable.
- Make the extra weeks different weeks to when the rest of the uk is off to keep holiday costs down.
- Children get too bored over the six week summer holiday. Four weeks would be a lot better. It would also enable us to have a cheaper family holiday.
- The September term feels particularly long
- This is definitely the best way forward.
- This would make summer childcare and holidays much easier.
- Make the 9 week half term the first one so from mid August to October so the last half term would finish in July.
- A four week break still allows people to select a holiday time but would help children by lessening the break from education
- Why not have 2 weeks at the spring bank holiday (Witson) and one week at february. Also having the 9 week term from august to October
- This would be the best option to ensure that learning is less likely to be diminished during a lengthy summer holiday
- This option would give families to option of winter holidays as well as summer for those who wish to go skiing for example.
- My favourite option is number 2 because the holiday's breaks are distributed during all year in a more balanced way.
- Preferred option
- I think this provides the best outcome for children and for parents
- This is absolutely the best option. Kids do not need 4 weeks off in the summer. I think a shorter break and more fluid learning would be beneficial. As a family with two full time working parents we can't afford to go away anyway so we rely heavily on childcare and this is both costly and a challenge for 6 consecutive weeks. 4 weeks would be slightly more manageable and better for the children. It would also give the children more opportunity

with summer sporting activities at school. Having the longer break in autumn and spring will allow them to recharge and hopefully reduce illness caused by exhaustion during the period of shorter, darker days

- I am in favour with either option although this is more favourable to me.
- Fab idea having a autistic child he finds it very hard being away from school for a long period of time as it's not his routine
- No this sounds perfect.
- Would give several holiday options for families and help with childcare needs over the summer break. Do the children really need 6 weeks off in one block?
- as before better for children having shorter summer break and enabling parents to get cheaper holidays as we can not always get time off in the summer from work
- Brilliant idea children have so much time off in the summer it's always a struggle to pick up teaching when they return this way it's not left so long and children like routine etc
- Even better
- This is a much better idea than the first proposal. The current summer holidays are far too long.
- This suggestion is even better, as makes it easier with planning the childcare and going away on holidays.
- This option is better, and gives more freedom to working parents
- This is by far the most sensible idea for school holidays since I can remember and we would be foolish to not implement this. This option will benefit all parties and will help in the learning process by breaking up what is by far too great a break in the summer.
- Spreading the holidays throughout the year is a better idea for working parents, particularly on the Island where many people have seasonal jobs.
- I think four weeks is plenty for the summer holiday, this would reduce learning loss somewhat and allow for two proper breaks where families could go away together, or just feel like they have had a real break. Again it would be sensible to ensure that the Autumn term didn't start any earlier so as to not make this already long term any longer.
- This is my preferred proposal as I believe the summer holidays are too long and pupils are more likely to sustain their learning and knowledge by having smaller chunks of time off over the summer. If parents wish to take their children on holiday in this period they still have four weeks to choose from.
- As previously stated - a much better system. Long overdue.
- This would reduce the burden of childcare for 6 weeks over the summer holidays and provide greater flexibility for family vacations during the October and February half-terms.
- This option will need consideration of childcare provisions, schools offering holiday schemes etc due to parental work commitments... this may increase the learning opportunities for children who suffer with the long summer break.
- This would be the best case
- This would work also. Sometimes the half term from February to Easter can be interminable depending on when Easter falls in the year. This could help alleviate some of this,
- This would be my preferred option
- Also a great idea!



- This would make it easier for working parents to provide childcare across the year. Would be more in line with pupils ability to learn.
- I think this would be a brilliant idea. The school holidays are too long in my opinion and this would be beneficial
- This would be my preference.
- This would make it much easier for child care during the summer. 6 weeks is very hard to arrange.
- It would make working and having children much easier for childcare and also for bookin affordable holidays
- This would be geat!
- This is my preferred option
- I think this would be most beneficial.
- well 4 weeks is more then a long enough breaks and two weeks helps us prepare more for school
- Gives parents more flexibility when booking holidays. Also, not such a shock for children who have gotten out of the habit of learning after a six week break.
- From a working parent's view paying for childcare over the 6 week summer holiday can be very costly in one go, whereas if the school holidays were more evenly spread throughout the year our childcare costs would also be more evenly spread over the year.
- It would equal out learning time with rest and recuperation time.
- This would be even better!!! 6 weeks is too long and 4 weeks I feel would be the right amount of time
- This would allow more parents to work as it would be easier to cover childcare costs if spread through the year instead of in a huge block. Children would have less of a dip in achievement without the long break. More consistency for children and families.
- in my opinion I would like the holidays to stay the same because of the routine the children have and because of assesments and gcses
- October and may/june as two week breaks would be ideal
- This is preferred
- Add one of the weeks onto Easter holiday so maybe 3 weeks at Easter
- This would make covering childcare in the summer much easier. Last year the summer holidays plus inset days amounted to a 7 week holiday in the summer. This is not workable for parents who work.
- Shut school in Winter and save on heating costs
- Same as free school holidays
- As before
- This makes most sense; a more split across the year.
- would reduce childcare fees would stop boredom but still provide a good break
- Just do it
- Even better idea!
- I would support this option
- I would much prefer the holidays spread out this way. It gives the children a chance to relax more evenly throughout the year.

- I'd like to see you stop thinking you own our children and stop fining good honest parents for giving their children the best holiday they can afford and spending time with their children. You took a good man to court and wasted a hell of a lot of tax payers money for what??? to prove a ridiculous point!!!!!! There's people on the streets could of used that legal fee money, a shortage of doctors or even donate it to cancer research instead of frittering away money on your ego!!! You should be bloody well ashamed of yourselves???????????
- This would be the best option as easier to sort childcare for smaller amount of times then the large holiday!
- Like I said previously I would rather extend the winter holiday but this idea is the one that would sit with me.
- this is a far more manageable proposal for working parents and beneficial to the children as they would not have to endure such long terms.
- I feel this is even better than option one.
- I prefer this scheme (2) over the proposed schemes 1a and 1b
- I think this is the best solution out of all of the suggested ones. Reasons being: The summer holidays are a struggle for most working parents to find child cover for a full 6 weeks. The children often find it too long and their learning often halts for the duration and finally by allowing 2 x 2 week half term breaks familiis will be less likely to remove their children from school so that they have the ability to get off the island on a family holiday that's more affordable.
- Having to organise childcare for 6/7 weeks in one run is a lot to do for working parents. This would help with taking time off work and organising care.
- Less loss of learning would occur and four weeks is still a really long break.
- Same as previous comments
- This would allow the children to obtain a better break as well as giving much more flexibility on family holidays outside of the standardised countrywide term times. Especially given that the Easter/Spring Break would become decoupled from Easter.
- Shorter summers would help with child care a great deal
- i think it is the better option out of them all.
- i think it great idea hopefully it be cheaper for parents to take kids away as they can go the week most schools are back and travel companies have reduced there prices
- I think this would be the perfect option for parents and children at school. I've found with my son who is a July born baby, has struggled with a 6 week break on catching up on what was learnt in the previous year, when returning in September. It will also help parents with childcare arrangements and allow families to have holidays together and reduce the amount of additional time children are taken out of school for family holidays at affordable times
- Best option
- It provides more breaks, especially in February, as it gives GCSE students more time to finish coursework.
- Either option is acceptable
- Already asked for this previously - didn't know you would give the option. Much better - allows kids a more balanced life with less time to forget stuff and get out of the habit of school through those long holidays.

- I work in a B&B which is busiest during the summer and child care for 6 weeks is very difficult, 4 weeks is easier to arrange.
- I think 6 weeks is too long in the summer so this sounds great. Also it will help with booking cheaper holidays.
- I like the idea of shortening the summer holidays, as i feel 6 weeks off is too long for parents and children, but it needs to be workout that children have no more then a 7 week half-term at school, as they do still need a break and time-out from school.
- I feel this is better option as all children drop levels in their core subjects over such as long break as being 6 weeks .
- This is definitely the best option. The dates of a religious holiday like Easter should not determine our school calendar. All parents have to be employed now unless financially independent long holidays make life difficult. Children take an educational dip after long breaks. I was championing a change in term dates while a Governor, delighted to see progress
- In theory I support this, but am concerned that from the proposal this would leave a 9 week term which I feel is too long. If this is the only way to facilitate the two breaks of two weeks then I don't agree.
- 3 weeks over Christmas would be better than 2 in October
- As before, childcare arrangements could be easier and spread throughout the year.
- I think it's a great idea, it will allow the option to take a family holiday at either end of the season without the massive cost of a summer holiday.
- This is the best option!!!!!!
- I believe this is the best option! And would be extremely happy were it to happen!
- This would be the preference.
- It give parents more choice.
- This proposal allows pupils, teachers & families a much more balanced school life. Adequate rest & quality family time is essential to performing well at school & pupils are so tired by the end of term that a weeks holiday really isn't enough. If then a family holiday is planned in the one week, the pupil returns to school as tired as they were before the break. A two week half term would go a long way to solving this.
- Again, this would create more opportunities for children to have a break and reduce the loss of education in the summer. equally parents will also have more opportunity to take a holiday outside the summer holidays which can be an expensive time to go on holiday. would there ever be any chance of extending the Christmas holiday as this is always to short and the kids go back to school too soon after xmas or finish school very close to xmas
- Brill ifes
- Preferred choice
- This is the best proposal

**Please enter any comments that you have about this proposed timetable (1)**

I feel either that the arrangements be left alone. IF any change is to be made the October half term be 2 weeks and the summer shortened. However The summer holiday should be no less than 5 weeks.

I think having the longer half terms at the beginning of the academic year after a longer break with then a two week break- option 1a, is preferable to the other options- if we have to change.

2 weeks in October would not work for me with work as we have our audit so I would need to find childcare also I feel children are just getting in the swing of school again

3 x 7 week half terms between breaks. They are long! Especially for primary children.

A good proposal for the school term dates.

A term should be no longer than 6-7 weeks

A two week break in the autumn term would be useful as it is a long term, but six weeks in the summer is still needed.

A two week break would be preferable as this term is too long for both students and staff.

Acceptable

Acceptable

acceptable but not my preferred option

Acceptable.

Agreed, but when do students go back to school in September 2020?

All the proposals have a negative to them from a school employee perspective. This includes making terms longer - some are long enough already. Summer holiday shorter would result in all those workers who do extra days in their contracts not getting any summer holiday and as they are unable to take time off in the term- what would be the advantage of working in a school? You could loose a lot of support staff who are also parents of school age children. As it is an unguarded secret that the support staff are the people who keep a school running, this could be an administrative disaster.

Already made comment that this is my preferred option.

An eight week term at the end of the academic year is madness! This timetable has 5, 6, 7 and 8 week terms - there's no consistency and the children need that. I really disapprove of this proposal.

Any change in the school holidays won't work - apart from the concerns I've already raised - parents would have a VERY hard time looking after / or getting carers to look after children during 2week 1/2 terms.

As a parent who works in tourism. These proposals will not make any difference to me...but it would be good if the Christmas holidays could be extended by a week (into January) so that those who work in tourism who get January off (As the big hotels close for this month) can take a cheap holiday

As a teacher, having full summer holidays is vital to give staff the much earned rest and the opportunity to recharge batteries and be creative ready for the next term. Take this away and you will find you have a workforce even more willing to leave the profession! It use to take me a week to recover leaving four weeks holiday day and a week to prepare for the next term. Also this is a time for students to travel and experience life outside the classroom which is equally as important as live in the classroom. This also gives time for students to find themselves. Extra holiday at other times of the year will prevent this.

As Autumn term is such a long and due to weather a dark term, I would prefer two weeks if summer holidays had to be shortened.

As long as 18 month notice is given- some of us book holidays this far in advance

As long as all island schools primary and secondary have same term dates . As would be hard on working parents to arrange child care .

As per previous

As previously stated, at Autumn there is not much going on in the iow to entertain pupils with families with low income (pupil premium) Those pupils with january exams would not appreciate this reduction in their lesson/revision time Please keep autumn half term to 1 week

As previously stated, don't do it!

Benefits to breaking up the long Autumn term.

Better to have 2 week holiday in October when the term is longer and lots of bugs are hitting the children to given them a good break.

Breaking up sooner for Christmas would be much better That's when all the excitement is for children Dorset school broke up on 15th Dec and go back sooner this year which I think is a much more sensible way especially as the autumn term is much longer anyway

Can we have the extra week at xmas?

Cannot see the point of having two weeks in October

changes really need to happen. its silly having such a big break when most families have the most weork being a seasonal island

Children are not so tired in October as they have had a long Summer holiday prior to this one. Children and families may prefer a longer Christmas holiday as they are very tired nearer Christmas and they break up from school very late.

Comments already made. Unhelpful for pupils and teachers. Will not reduce learning loss or allow holiday flexibility. For those who do not go away neither October nor February is a good time for a

longer break. Poor weather, short days, few opportunities time do anything meaningful. The only half term worth extending is May. While I disagree with the whole proposal, why can't exam dates change?

Days short and dark in Autumn . Valuable mock revision time taken away from students.

Disagree with one week off at easter

Do not reduce teaching time for Year 11 and Year 13 Students which this will do. Apart from option 3 this is the only palatable option the council have provided- better than 1b and certainly 2.

Do NOT shorten the summer holiday.

Doesn't help my family have quality time together when we could have the chance to be outside and warm not everyone can afford to go abroad (my kids have never been abroad, have never been able to afford it in or out of term time and have never taken my kids out of school, eldest is 18 in Jan) the long summer break enables us to spend time as a family and we also work within the hospitality industry and have managed all these years.

Don't agree with changing it from the present.

don't do it

Don't like it plus need longer christmas

Don't change anything.

Don't like it or agree with it.

Easter is in the Easter hols would be better to separate.

Extra Christmas holiday is what your employees require.

fine

Fine by me.

Fine, why Feb over Oct though?

For me I prefer the extra holiday in October

For working parents this is an impossible holiday timetable to consider. Businesses do not stop for half term.

From a business point of view this is the best option. Schools are on break when the island is busier meaning student staff are available and Islanders with kids in school can still book holidays without penalty from either LEA or travel firms! From a schools point of view term length looks well balanced.

Good

Good idea, nicely spread out over the year.

Good.

Good. Breaks up the autumn term better. Especially for young pupils who are very tired in the first term.

Great!

Happy with a 5 week summer holiday.

Happy with it

Has any research been completed to see what the impact has been in other local authorities that have adopted this timetable? if not this needs to happen first.

Has not been thought through, instead of additional time added to February half term add it to May/June half term, the weather is better.

I agree with it

I am happy with the proposed timetable for a 2 week break in October and a 5 week summer term.

I approve with option 1a.

I could see the benefit of a cheaper foreign holiday.

I disagree with this

I do not agree with longer half terms. It would interrupt the flow of learning too much

I do not agree with the changes to the current school year breaks

I do not agree with this change

I do not believe that any of the proposed timetables will make the slightest difference to the educational outcomes of children on the IOW. Education has been disrupted on the Island for several years since the schools' reorganisation, and this seems to be another attempt by the council at grabbing at straws to improve standards.

I do not mind it.

I do not want a shortened summer holiday.

I do not want two weeks off in October, they have only just gone back to school!

I don't agree with changing the current holiday arrangements

I don't think this is a significant enough change. It will have little impact.

I don't agree with this proposal as stated before.

I don't agree with this timetable as I think that the current timetable (2016-2017) is already appropriate.

I don't like it

I don't like the fact that Easter is outside of the holidays.

I don't like the idea of adding extra holiday in the autumn when our weather isn't so good.

I don't want this change

I don't want to shorten the summer holidays.

I feel it is much fairer and more beneficial to the children to have a fairer distribution of the holidays instead of having such a long summer holiday especially during the winter period when they are more prone to sickness with colds stomachs bugs etc

I feel that is a suitable time table for school employers and children of all ages attending to get the best from all.

I feel that this is the best of the proposed options given.

I feel that this would be the best option

I feel the school holiday timetable should stay unchanged.

I feel this proposed timetable would work well. It allows an extra week to the October half term break which helps stop the long autumn term being as much of a shock to the system after a long summer break. It also maintains a nice long summer holiday which allows lots of time for families to be together.

I feel this timetable would likely benefit pupils as well as teachers

I hope you are also consulting with other education providers locally such as the Isle of Wight College to ensure that any future changes can also be reflected across the Island for consistency for both families and persons working within the education environment

I just felt 6 weeks is too long. So 4 weeks would be my preference.

I like it

I like it!

I like it.

I like this option!

I like this option, it's a very long term, two weeks would be good.

I like this proposal

I like this proposed timetable because of the 2 weeks in October.

I like, but not my favourite scheme



I prefer a longer summer holiday rather than 2 weeks at the autumn half term. Prefer current arrangement.

I prefer it doesn't change but option 1 is the best..

I prefer option 1b

I prefer summer holidays to remain as 6 weeks. I am happy with the current status of the holidays.

I prefer the 6 weeks in Summer.

I prefer this has the September to December is a longer period of time ,and the January to February is a much shorter period of time and feel they don't not require 2 weeks at the February half term.

I prefer this option as people don't have money in february to be able to do things with children and so cold! If in october much more to be able to do with children!

I prefer this option but hopefully with easter within the break

I prefer this timetable

I strongly disagree with this proposal. A reduction of one week to the summer holiday will not have any impact on the learning dip which has been cited as reason for the proposed changes. therefore why bother implementing any changes.

I teach reception age children. I feel an 8 week autumn term would be too long for them to handle at age 4, however, having a 2 week October half term would be detrimental to reception children being able to settle into the routine of going to school. They would spend september getting settled, to then have 2 weeks off and then have to start settling in for a second time. Wellbeing is a key factor in ensuring children make good and better progress and I feel a 2 week autumn half term would have a very negative impact on their well being. Having a 2 week half term in the spring would be much better.

I think 1a would be the best option as the longest time between holidays would only be 7 weeks. ( and it would make holidays during this timer cheaper)

I think 7 week terms top is a good option

I think either option is ok and support shortening the summer holidays

I think it is good for the children to have even term times.

I think it would be very disappointing for Island children, families and school staff to have a two week holiday in the Autumn when the weather is less reliable, tourist attractions are less likely to be open and children have just settled into the new school year.

I think it would give people a chance to go away for longer than a week in October hopefully somewhere warmer, whereas I don't think February would be as popular as being so close after Christmas!

I think that if this does happen it would really be messy because it seems complicated also it seems like students will have less time off

I think that increasing either the February or October half term will provide little benefit to parents trying to book cheaper holidays. It is common for these half term dates to vary between the different UK Local Education Authorities, and as such the travel industry will charge a premium for holidays within these periods.

I think that the summer break should remain the same

I think the extended half term is a good idea whether it falls in February or October as holiday prices will be considerably lower outside of standard term time. Currently lanesend primary school have all their development days to facilitate an extra week at half term which works well for foreign holidays.

I think the Option A1 is better as the 2 weeks holidays are added in October when the weather is mild, the children will enjoy more be outdoor than in February.

I think the term lengths need to be evened put where possible 6/7 weeks is acceptable 5/8 is too short / long.

I think the time table should stay the same as it is now

I think the whole system needs to be looked at, the private schools have it right, holidays out of the normal so parents can afford taking g the children abroad.

I think this arrangement will work well.

I think this is by far the best option, as it takes into account the needs to the children and staff, as well as giving families an extra week for me affordable holidays. It is also the way in which several other local authorities have chosen to change their holidays.

I think this is fair

I think this is more beneficial for the students

I think this looks like a very sensible proposal and would allow for a longer rest period in a very long term. This would enable staff and students to develop resilience and improve mental health.

I WILL BE MODERATLY ANGRY AT THE GOVERNMENT. BRING BACK THE PIRATE SHIP PARK.

I would be happy with this change.

I would be very happy to see this and teach to these holidays.

I would move the summer holidays earlier to break up just after the GCSE / A Level exams and start the year earlier in August. This gives more weeks of study time before these exams

I would prefer a 2 week break in the may half term

I would prefer no shortening of the summer holidays

I would prefer not see this implemented as autumn is a busy time for many firms and it would be difficult to get holiday for 2 weeks then having already taken time off at some point in July and August

I would prefer shortening the summer Holiday to four weeks

I would prefer things to stay as they are. There is no need to change this!!! It will not help with cheaper family holidays as mentioned previously. Children value their summer holidays as I'm sure teachers do :)

I would prefer this to 1b, but have you considered moving the 1 week half term to a different week to the standard week usually used, it would mean that we could avoid peak holiday period

I would prefer to add a week on to the end of the summers so we can take a week holiday abroad in September

I would rather no changes were made.

I would rather the timetable be kept the same as it is now.

I would say adjust the 24th of February by a week.

I would support option 1A

I would welcome this change.

I'd like to see you stop thinking you own our children and stop fining good honest parents for giving their children the best holiday they can afford and spending time with their children. You took a good man to court and wasted a hell of a lot of tax payers money for what??? to prove a ridiculous point!!!!!! There's people on the streets could of used that legal fee money, a shortage of doctors or even donate it to cancer research instead of frittering away money on your ego!!! You should be bloody well ashamed of yourselves??????????

I'd be happy with this.

If a change is necessary this would be my preferred option, most of the attractions are still open in October, but most are closed in Feb, making it harder to entertain the kids

If all schools adopt this seeing as my family alone attend 4 different schools. Then this would be preference if we had to lose the 6 week break.

If changed I would prefer this option.

If it is decided to change the holidays, this would be of most benefit to all.

If the holiday was a week later 25th this would cover Halloween & fireworks night both days kids want to stay up late

If the idea is for families to get cheaper holiday options, this is unlikely because mainland schools and IW schools' half term holidays are often not the same and holiday companies inflate costs for both weeks...

If this were to happen I would prefer the extension to be on the October half term

If you shorten the summer holiday would prefer this option.

Implications on already struggling seasonal business that rely on summer holidays! Bad enough that the ferry companies are costing Isle of Wight tourism, now our own council want to trash us!

In my opinion it's just silly to introduce 2 weeks half term break in October just after Summer holidays

Is there an option to split the Autumn into 3 five week blocks and have a week off between each?

It doesn't look horrendous, but is it being changed for the right reasons?

It has been proposed by someone who has a business interest in reducing the summer break. No one has asked for this. Teachers should be having development days during the school breaks rather than term time. My child didn't start school until 08/01/18 and previously she broke up early for the summer holiday due to so-called teacher training days.

It is better for children's learning, childcare would be easier to cover during the summer, easier for families to have holidays in the UK and abroad as a lot of jobs come to an end in Sept/Oct and start again around March/April.

It is better to have the 2 week half term in October. The Autumn term is the longest and would be better to have a 2 week break in the middle. The children are very tired by the Christmas break with the current 1 week half term.

It is my preferred option

It is not worth all of this work and cost to change to 5 week summer holiday. It needs to be 4 weeks otherwise it is a waste of time and resource.

It looks reasonable - the holidays and half terms are evenly distributed

It seems a shame to not have Easter in the Easter holidays! Surely that was the point of having the holiday in the first place!!

It would be better for the summer 1st half term to be longer than the 2nd summer half term. 20th April - 22nd May is a very short half term!!

It would be better to have a two week break in the longer autumn term than the shorter spring term.

It's a step in the right direction towards eventually establishing a four week summer holiday.

It's marginally better than the other options. But don't do it.

It's OK just worry time of year and what to do with kids if rubbish English weather

It's too confusing to work out what it all means

It's too late in October - weather likely to be bad

Just reduce the holidays, 11 weeks is more than enough. Gives more time for children to learn

Keep it the same please

keep it the same please

Keep terms as they are.

Keep the six week summer holiday.

Keeps long summer break but gives more flexibility for working parents to cover

Leave well alone

Like this shorter autumn term.

Link does open on my mobile so I can't comment

Longer half term in October likely to coincide with better weather than February

Looking at option 1A there is a relatively equal spacing with regards to the amount of weeks the young people will be at school this may help prevent some of the difficulties that can occur when young people have had a long term

Looks fine

Looks fine.

Looks fine. An early return in September and only 4 days before Christmas break.

looks good

Looks good

looks good

Looks ok

looks sensible

Looks very acceptable.

Looks wrong to me.

Makes sense

Maybe have 3 weeks at Easter rather than 2 weeks on October, that will allow families to go away to see families in different countries.

Most of Europe have a longer summer break hence its much easier to take time off with the family in August

most sensible alternative suggestion

My main concern regarding any changes is if it will effect all schools including St Georges and CTK .

My preference is to leave the arrangements as they are, but I would favour a 2 week holiday in the autumn half-term rather than spring half-term.

My view in support of the shorter summer holiday and longer October half term is for the wellbeing of the children in that it would give them a better rest. I do not believe that any of the proposals resolve the issue of term time holidays.

N/A

N/a

Neither option 1A or 1B would make summer holidays affordable

No

no comments as prefer to leave as is.

NO KEEP IT HOW IT IS PLEASE

No need for change. If it's in regards to people being able to take there kids on holiday than I still don't see why. Majority of people I work with can't afford a holiday school term or school holiday. So only usefull to the few that earn enough that can.

no thank you

No thanks

no, its not needed

No, leave the 6 week holiday.

none

not a good idea

Not in favour

not in favour of longer autumn half term break

Not interested

Not much difference to what we have now. Hardly worth changing it.

Not only would this help make annual holidays cheaper it would also help childcare costs to be broken down with a shorter summer for working parents.

Not preferable

Not really sure what it is trying to achieve. I don't think it will make a difference to the attendance issue you are worrying about

Not unacceptable.

Of all the suggestions this is the closest to what happens already, but I would have preferred to keep the 6 week summer holiday

ok

Ok

Ok but not the best option. I am pro 4 week summer hol

Only shorten the summer holiday with no extra time off on other half terms 14 weeks off a year is not good for children They should cut summer holidays down to 12 weeks a year and keep the rest half terms as they are.

Option 1A is probably the better of the two proposed options but I feel that maybe an extra week at Christmas would be better than two weeks in October or February

Option 1A is the better option, but I don't want the summer holidays reduced at all. If this has to change, put the teacher training days at the end of the summer holidays.

Option 2 is preferable

Perfect.

personally October is a very busy time for my husband's business meaning, less chance of family holidays and more child care requirements

Personally this is preferable over option 1B. I would rather have this option or keep it how it currently is.

Please consult my previous comments. I do not agree with this proposal.

Please do not change what works. It's hard enough children concentrating in June and July!

please don't change breaks

Please don't do this. I will have to leave teaching on the island and go to the mainland. We are trying to keep teachers not drive them away.

Please leave the summer holidays alone. 1 week difference makes no difference.

Please see comments in five, I would not like to see a shortened summer holiday.

Please see previous comments

Pointless having 2 weeks autumn half term holiday as weather not so good and children are way more ready for the longer term after having all the summer off!

Prefer option 1A

Prefer status quo

Prefer this one

Prefer this option

Prefer this option as no long terms in school.

Prefer to have one less week in the autumn and one extra around May time when the weather is warmer

Prefer to keep what we have. Learning time in year 11 and 6 th form crucial in prep for exams.

Preference for this option

Preferred

Preferred option

Preferred option

Preferred option

Probably the best option out of the two but I would rather keep the holidays as they are now.

Really don't mind but I do think the summer holidays are long

Really good option

Refer to my comments on question 5

Regardless of when a school's holidays are the local holiday companies will increase the prices accordingly. There will also always be parents whose employers cannot allow them leave during school holidays no matter when they are. Not everyone can afford a holiday abroad in the winter months and by shortening the summer school holiday you would be making it more difficult to accommodate all those wishing to take a UK holiday in the UK summer - fewer weeks means fewer options for employer allowable weeks as well as fewer actual bed space options. Fewer summer weeks for the UK holiday destinations to conduct their business - loss of tourism weeks and earnings from tourist spending.

Restricting the length of the summer holiday would cause major problems for me taking Holiday with my family. This is because we work a Rota at the hospital but everyone wants time off with their children at the same time and this does not allow flexibility. Also it will not match holidays in Hampshire where our son attended 6th Form. If Hampshire also changed to the same dates it would be manageable.

Ridiculous

Ridiculous.

Rubbish

rubbish - leave it as it is



Said them already it's a senseless idea

See earlier comment about coursework.

see previous comments

See previous comments

See previous comments, this will only have negative effects on learning, slightly better than option 1B as the disruption is in the first term and not when coursework / exams are coming up. Better to not disrupt at all and leave it how it is, people will have to pay for holidays like they have for decades and like they do everywhere else. Or don't go on holiday if you can't afford it!

Seems more equal.

Seems the more sensible option if it were to change.

Shortening the first half term is useful as all teachers and students find it difficult to get back into the swing of things after such a long summer break

Should not be changed! But the council will do what they want regarding what people say anyways

Six week summer holiday needed.

So Reception children have two weeks off, having barely settled and then return to school in the dark days of November, while staff have to resettle them, progress learning and prepare for Christmas events.

Some parents work at different schools to their children. If all school including academies don't follow same holidays it doesn't have any benefits!

Something needs sorting out quickly as we run a business and our children are missing out on a family holiday

sooner the better once agreed

Still better than what we have now but would prefer two weeks in Spring.

Still do not agree

Stop using the island for ridiculous pilot schemes and invest the money into schools where it can be used with more immediate effect on children's education I really cannot see what benefit changing holidays will have

Stupid

sure

Teachers need to recognise that they are paid well, have incredible flexibility and terms and conditions. Most professions have to deliver similar pressures and stresses in evenings and weekends but do not get 14 weeks paid holiday a year.

Terms lengths are better for children

That's OK But I DO NOT want less than 5 weeks holiday in the summer. After working hard all year BOTH children and teachers need time off to recharge.

the calendar looks better and the children will have an equal amount of breaks as oppose to having such a long summer holiday

The evening out of each half term is where the focus should be, along with the long summer holiday

the holidays would not coincide with my family who live on the mainland making family holidays very difficult

The spring term is never an issue with behaviour etc. It is the most productive when working with the students.

the timetable should remain the same

There are no dates for the option 2 with 2 weeks in oct and 2 weeks in feb ??

There are too many breaks which would have a destabilising effect on pupils.

These 2 weeks are the same as when some counties in the rest of the uk will be off so will not help parents with keeping holiday costs down.

These are not balanced terms - its a pity that you don't list how many weeks each half term is, as is listed in the paper.

Think this is the best option, reduces the long term leading up to Christmas.

This

This appears to have a good balance of time in & out of school

This as a family would suit us better as our children get very exhausted with the change to season of darker nights and longer terms. I can only see this would benefit children's welfare and mental health.

This breaks up the learning too much, they have a short block, then 2 weeks off, then another block, then another 2 weeks they will forget everything.

This is a very sensible proposal which spaces the holidays well.

This is my favourite option.

This is my least preferred option

This is my preferred option

This is my preferred option.

This is my preferred solution.

This is preferred. AN ALTERNATIVE suggestion - Four Equal terms, with Equal holidays set between the four.

This is the best alternative proposal, but think it is fundamentally pointless. There is some validity to increasing the first half term to two weeks, but this could be achieved by tinkering with term dates and lengths rather than decreasing the summer holidays.

This is the better of a bad choice.

This is the better one to help learning

This is the most suitable option

This looks better.

This looks great.

This looks like a good option if change is going to happen

This looks ok. It may give more flexibility for families.

This looks very sensible.

This my preferred option. I feel it gives a break that is sufficient for the summer and two weeks in October gives children a much needed break after transitioning to a new school.

This One looks better

This option is less of a wrench from the current system. Maybe it's worth trialling this?

This option would be my preference. Just a little more spread out and allows kids to have a good amount of down time more often.

this pork is so raw that it's still singing 'hakuna matata'- Gordon Ramsey

This seems like evenly distributed term times. This makes the most sense to me.

This seems ok

This seems the better option of the proposed changes

This sounds like the best option.

This suggestion offers the most balanced half-term length.

This timetable looks ideal and I think it would benefit staff and students.

This will effectively reduce the term time/classroom time in the run up to examinations by one week. Some of these examinations start as early as the beginning of January and the time after Easter is generally a revision period or marking period, so in effect this shortens the productive part of the school year, even though it gives more opportunity for staff and students to rest during the Autumn term.

This would allow us greater flexibility on holidays and childcare. Also stops our children getting out of routine of school life. 6 weeks is a long time to be away from school.

This would be better than doing nothing.

This would be easier for planning the curriculum evenly across the year

This would be my preferred pattern to use for extra holiday time during October when prices may be slightly lower.

This would be preferable if a change was implemented

this would only effect council schools and academies don't have to follow the same holidays so I don't think it will solve anything just cause more issues

This would seem fine

Timings of additional breaks are too long with coursework deadlines and exams. Students return after a longer break having forgotten work and out of routine. I need to see year 10 and especially 11s as much as possible to support progress in school.

Too many holidays in feb

Two weeks in Oct would be difficult to entertain children and get them out and active if weather is poor. Do not assume people will take holidays away from the island. Most school holidays we are at home

Two weeks in October is not my preferred choice although I do support shortening the summer break.

Two weeks in October may not allow children to enjoy time outdoors. Whilst Christmas is also prone to poor weather conditions, the festivities take over.

Two weeks in October sounds good, can catch some end of season holiday deals.

Two weeks in October works well.

Use same model as free school as

Voting for 1a

Warmer weather for two week break in October and Easter within the Easter holiday is the better option.

We appear locked into a paradigm that is unhelpful and end up selecting options the nobody really wants. To increase holidays in one part of the year we must sacrifice holidays in summer. This is a result of the 190 day school year regulations. These regs only apply to local authority maintained schools not independent or free schools or academies. It makes no sense. All independent schools have a MUCH shorter year already, on average 23 days shorter. If the council could extend BOTH half terms to two weeks and leave summer holidays at 6 weeks, the local authority school year would still be 13 days longer than at independent schools. Perhaps the IW COUNCIL needs to lobby the

government to lift restrictions on how LA schools can structure the school year. Anything less is just tinkering and may make the current situation worse for families.

We are happy for any shorting of holidays ur to both parents working full time

What ever is decided needs to be agreed island wide and not just in the small number of schools which is run by the local authority.

Whatever option is proposed it's got to be better than such a long summer holidays

whats the point in having two weeks off in Feb when weather is bad

Who is this benefitting? What difference will one week in the summertime make apart from add more childcare requirements on working parents. It's hard enough getting relatives to cover one day during a week, but two weeks on the trot adds pressure to families.

Why fix what isn't broken?

Why would you want additional holiday when it is cold and dark and no Island attractions are open.

Would be very happy about this

Would it be possible to bring the October half-term forward by one week so that families could benefit from cheaper flights abroad when the weather is still OK?

Would prefer it to stay as it is now.

Would prefer the 2 week October break

Would prefer the extra week to be in October not February.

Would prefer this option

Would support this version

Would work well for students and teachers to avoid missing precious learning time.

youve put so much ginger in this Its a weasley - gordon ramsay

**Please enter any comments that you have about this proposed timetable(2)**

Keep terms as they are.

1A is a better option.

2 week break in February isn't necessary as it is a shorter term anyway

2 weeks off in February is not something to look forward too. Unless your one of the fortunate few who can afford to go skiing.

2 x 7 week half terms and 1x 8 week half term is ridiculous! 8 weeks....aged 4! I think there would be a considerable rise in school absence due to tiredness...which in turn would effect immunity...and thus leave children more prone to illness. You'd see zero 100% attendance!

4 week's summer holiday would give children and teachers less able to recover from the intensity of work that prevails in a school year

4 weeks is too short for the summer holidays

5-week terms feel too short.

7 or 8 week terms are very long. better to equalise them where possible

9 weeks is far too long for a half term

A 2 week holiday in February only has advantages for those lucky enough to be able to jet off to very warm places.

A 4 week summer holiday would not be long enough for adults working in schools to 'recharge their batteries'.. The children also need a decent break from the intensity of school.

A big fat NO

A month between two fortnight holidays? Two weeks in February when weather is poor. A nightmare for childcare.

Absolutely preposterous.

Acceptable

Acceptable however still prefer the option with a four week summer break overall

Again, I do not agree with the shortening of the summer holiday - when the weather is good, and attractions are open - in order to lengthen the February half term - when it is freezing and there is nothing to do.

Again, ok but not the best option. Pro 4 week summer hol

Again, there's hardly any difference.

Although this is very similar to option 1A some of the terms are longer than others

An 8 week and then a 7 week term is too long for children

AN ALTERNATIVE suggestion - Four Equal terms, with Equal holidays set between the four.

Any change in the school holidays won't work - apart from the concerns I've already raised - parents would have a VERY hard time looking after / or getting carers to look after children during 2 week 1/2 terms.

are u stupid-gordon ramsay

As 10

As a parent who works in tourism. These proposals will not make any difference to me...but it would be good if the Christmas holidays could be extended by a week (into January) so that those who work in tourism who get January off (As the big hotels close for this month) can take a cheap holiday

As above and the spring term is essential for final GCSE and A level preparation. A longer half term can only be detrimental to this.

As above don't drive good teachers away from the IOW

As above, bring the Christmas holiday forward.

As before - I would not be supportive to extend the spring half term holiday to two weeks when the weather is at its worst and the daylight hours are short.

As before it's a senseless idea

As previously stated, don't do it!

As previously stated, please keep the Spring half term break to 1 week since there is a high amount of coursework being worked on at this time so a reduction in lesson time would cause major issues on coursework quality/quantity

As this is already a shorter term it would make more sense to have the extra week in autumn, where there's more time to fit in curriculum coverage

Awful

Bad

Better Option than above one

Brilliant!

Can we have the extra week at xmas?

Children do not need a two week half term

Comments as above

Confusion as to why it still says 5 week holiday? Surely this would be shortened and school would open earlier than the 2nd September?

Definitely not good for school staff

Definitely opposed

Disagree with 2 weeks off in winter

Dislike

Ditto

Does not make sense - Spring term 2 is incredibly short! Productive learning in the run up to exams always takes place during this time. Autumn term 1 is also very very long with only one week off at half term; students and staff alike will get tired, especially as the days get shorter.

Doesn't address the very long Autumn term and staff and student tiredness. Spring terms are normally ok as they are 6 weeks only

Doesn't help my family have quality time together when we could have the chance to be outside and warm not everyone can afford to go abroad (my kids have never been abroad, have never been able to afford it in or out of term time and have never taken my kids out of school, eldest is 18 in Jan) the long summer break enables us to spend time as a family and we also work within the hospitality industry and have managed all these years.

Don't agree with changing it from the present.

don't do it

Don't do it

Don't like it or agree with it.

Don't mind this either BUT I DO NOT want shorter than a 5 week break in the summer.

Don't prefer this option.

Dont think two weeks holiday February necessary after two weeks holiday at Xmas

Dreadful! A 7 week term is actually too long, so that first 8 week term would be dreadful for children and teachers. Expect attendance to dip dramatically if an 8 week term were to be introduced

Easter as above. Also holiday issues resulting from shortened summer.

Even worse, you don't want to disrupt the continuity of learning at this stage in the year when coursework is being finalised.

Exactly as stated above but the situation would be even worse.

Extra Christmas holiday



Fine, why Feb over Oct though?

For working parents this is an impossible holiday timetable to consider. Businesses do not stop for half term.

From a business point of view much the same as 1A however from a schools point of view the very first term back, when all the kids are starting a new year (and sometimes school) is a dreaded 8 weeks long. By the end of that term the kids will be well below optimal for learning and the staff will be worn out!

Good balance again, however, not having the Easter Sunday as part of the holidays may leave it difficult for some families who travel off the island to see relatives.

Good option

Good use of spreading the weeks out throughout the year summer holidays are currently too long making some terms especially for younger children so to shorten the summer holiday and extend holidays elsewhere is a fantastic proposal

Half terms are too long for children to cope and would affect learning also too short summer no thank you

Happy with a 5 week summer holiday.

Happy with this preference

Has any research been completed to see what the impact has been in other local authorities that have adopted this timetable? if not this needs to happen first.

Have same summer holidays as Scotland, it would put parents on the cost of holidays and maybe reduce children being taken out of school for family holidays, as they are too expensive.

I don't like it

I agree with it

I also like this one but can't decide which I prefer

I am guessing with both the proposals that after the 5 weeks holiday in summer 2020. The school would return on Tuesday 1st September as the Monday 31st is the bank holiday

I can't see the point of changing things!

I disagree with this

I disagree with this idea. In a private school I use to get 9 weeks and the school had excellent results! Therefore making holidays and results not linked.

I do not agree with this change

I do not feel the need for 2 weeks in February as the lead up to exams in May is a vital time.

I do not like this timetable

I do not mind it.

I do not see the he point of a 2 week break in February. There will be nothing to do (everything is closed. Bad weather will prohibit the kind of free outdoor activities that are possible in summer.

I do not think this is a good option to follow, as it makes the holidays uneven. I am strongly against it.

I do not want a shortened summer holiday.

I do not want any changes. Thank you.

I don't like it.

I don't think this is a significant enough change. It will have little impact.

I don't agree with this timetable as I think that the current timetable (2016-2017) is already appropriate.

I dont anyone gains anything from this proposal.

I don't like it!

I don't think that it is necessary to have a 2 week break in February.

I don't think that this would work well.

I don't want this change

I don't want to shorten the summer holidays.

I feel the school holiday timetable should stay unchanged.

I feel this holiday would have a huge impact on the most vulnerable students with regards to exam preparation. Students from high achieving homes have the skills to independently revise - those who don't would be at a huge disadvantage.

I hate it

I hope you are also consulting with other education providers locally such as the Isle of Wight College to ensure that any future changes can also be reflected across the Island for consistency for both families and persons working within the education environment

I just want 6 weeks at least of summer hols. Last year was lovely with almost 7 weeks!

I like but not my favourite scheme

I like the easter holidays being removed from the easter weekend.

I most definitely do not support option 1B

I prefer 1A

I prefer a longer summer holiday rather than 2 weeks at the spring half term. Autumn term is unacceptably long. Prefer current arrangement

I prefer option 1A as it is more balanced but both are better than the current system.

I prefer option 1a rather than 1b

I prefer option 1A. The children and staff would all benefit from two weeks to recover in the first half-term as the settling in period of the first half-term is tiring!

I prefer summer holidays to remain as 6 weeks. I am happy with the current status of 6 weeks summer holidays.

I prefer the 2 week break in autumn term

I prefer the six weeks in Summer.

I prefer this in Feb, but there is no option to add a week on to May holiday, when many people like to go away for better weather.

I prefer this option less

I prefer this option, I think. It would mean less of a break (only a fortnight, once preparation weeks are taken into account) but would allow for a more balanced year and take some of the stress out of the autumn term.

I prefer this option, to add extra holiday in the spring when our weather is better.

I prefer this option.

I sexually identify as an apache attack helicopter

I strongly disagree with this proposal. A reduction of one week to the summer holiday will not have any impact on the learning dip which has been cited as reason for the proposed changes. therefore why bother implementing any changes.

I think having 2 x 2 week half terms is better.

I think having the 2 week break in the spring term cuts too much into crucial learning time and also the summer 1 half term is too short.

I think it would be very disappointing for Island children, families and school staff to have a two week holiday in the Autumn when the weather is less reliable and tourist attractions are less likely to be open. Mainland schools and private schools often have a slight variation of a week at half term-meaning holidays will not become any cheaper.

i think option two would be better spread of holidays

I think that increasing either the February or October half term will provide little benefit to parents trying to book cheaper holidays. It is common for these half term dates to vary between the

different UK Local Education Authorities, and as such the travel industry will charge a premium for holidays within these periods.

I think that the summer break should remain the same

I think the term lengths need to be evened put where possible 6/7 weeks is acceptable 5/8 is too short / long.

I think the time table should stay the same as it is now

I think this is a better option but I would rather it stayed the same. If it's not broken no need to fix it

I think this is the better option.

I think this option would work better for parents and children.

I think this would be a much better outcome, for reasons detailed above.

I would be unhappy as a teacher, with the super short summer.

I would not be happy with 2 weeks holiday in February due to the weather.

I would not be happy with this change.

I would not want 8 weeks as the first half term as the children would find this difficult and tiring in a new year group without a break.

I would prefer no shortening of the summer holidays

I would prefer shortening the summer holiday to four weeks

I would prefer the change to be made to October as my children are often more tired at that time and could do with the extra week in October

I would prefer this option if a change had to be made.

I would rather no changes were made.

I would rather the timetable be kept the same as it is now.

I'd like to see you stop thinking you own our children and stop fining good honest parents for giving their children the best holiday they can afford and spending time with their children. You took a good man to court and wasted a hell of a lot of tax payers money for what??? to prove a ridiculous point!!!!!! There's people on the streets could of used that legal fee money, a shortage of doctors or even donate it to cancer research instead of frittering away money on your ego!!! You should be bloody well ashamed of yourselves??????????

I'm not liking this

If changed I would prefer the other option.

If the timetable has to change then keeping the pattern at 5-6 weeks is much better than 8-9 week terms. That is just ridiculous

It doesn't make sense to make the spring term even shorter. It is the term when children have settled into the new class, there is less illness and less pressure with other activities/events e.g. Christmas, testing & exams, sports days and uncomfortably hot weather. Few parents are likely to want their children home for 2 weeks in February either! It would be better to break up a week earlier for Easter and have 3 weeks then if an extra week in the spring term is the option.

It has been proposed by someone who has a business interest in reducing the summer break. No one has asked for this. Teachers should be having development days during the school breaks rather than term time. My child didn't start school until 08/01/18 and previously she broke up early for the summer holiday due to so-called teacher training days.

It is not worth all of this work and cost to change to 5 week summer holiday. It needs to be 4 weeks otherwise it is a waste of time and resource.

It makes far more sense to have a longer two week spring half term for children to break up the terms. Also weather is better for holidays, days off etc.

It makes more sense to have two weeks break in October than in February.

It would be better to have a two week break in the longer autumn term than the shorter spring term.

It would not seem beneficial or sensible to give a 2 week spring half term, followed by a 4 week Spring 2, then an extremely long final term when everyone is struggling to maintain energy levels and motivation anyway. This arrangement would seem to have a very poor balance.

It's a step in the right direction towards eventually establishing a four week summer holiday.

Just keep it the same?

Keep it the same please

Keep the six week summer holiday

Keep the summer holiday as long as possible whilst evening out the terms

Leave well alone and stop meddling!

Less preferred

Like the shorter spring term.

Like this one the best!

longer spring half term better as weather likely to be better

Looks fine.

looks ok

Looks ok

Looks okay but a longer break in February is more likely to be cold - unless you want to go skiing.

MADNESS! HOW ON EARTH ARE WE MEANT TO GET STUDENTS MOTIVATED TO PASS EXAMS IF THEY SPEND 2 WEEKS AT FEB AND 2 WEEKS AT EASTER NOT IN SCHOOL?! I thought you were meant to be trying to support better exam results not make them harder to achieve!!!!!!????

Many business employ school aged children in summer holidays which gives work experience and helps out local business during busy tourist season. if these children are different holiday periods they will miss out financially and through experience. 6 wks is a decent length of time to get some training

Many working parents need to apply for time off over a year in advance. Term dates need to be set as soon as possible

My Platt and his supports will be appeased.

no - spring half terms are too short for secondary schools (especially as mock exams are around that time)

no comments as prefer to leave as is.

No don't think this is a good option with 2 week half term in spring term

no gain as still have 8 week half term 6 weeks is best, 7 achievable.

No it's wrong they should only have 4 weeks off in summer no longer half terms in the year

no thank you

No thanks, some people use the Easter bank holiday weekend to tag on their holiday.

No! We need summer time, not wet rainy time away from schools. Students need fresh air and exercise - which they can get on the Island in the summer.

No, leave the 6 week holiday.

not a good idea

Not in favour

Not interested

Not my preferred timetable

Not necessary. Spring term is fine as it is.

Not preferable

Not so keen on 1b

One extremely short term with this option

Option 2 is preferable

Please see comments in five, I am not in favour of any shortening of the summer holiday.

Please see every other point that I have stated.

Please see previous comments

Prefer first option 1a

Prefer longer summer holiday.

Prefer option 1A

Prefer this option

Prefer this option

Prefer this option as breaks up the academic year and that middle term

Prefer this option if current system has to change. Rather keep current system though.

Prefer to keep what we have.

Preferred option if change is inevitable.

Pupils taking exams need the continuity of teaching and should not have two weeks holiday in the spring term.

Ridiculous

Rubbish

rubbish - leave it as it is

Same as above - not a significant increase in benefits to warrant the change!

Same comment as above. It's not exactly world changing!

Same issues re above questions rubbish time of year if not going abroad

See above summer holidays too long.

Should not be changed! But the council will do what they want regarding what people say anyways

Silly to have 2 weeks off in spring term as this is a much shorter term and 2 weeks off isn't needed.

Six week summer holiday needed.

Ski holiday fun!

sooner the better once agreed

Spring 2 is too short. Autumn term is too long.

Spring term feels too short.

Spring term is very short so a two week half term is pointless and makes for disjointed learning.

Stupid

Summer term seems long

Terrible idea, it creates more gaps and lack of continuity at a time when GCSE & A level students are finalising coursework and doing exam preparation this would be very negative. Plus who would want to go on holiday in February anyway?

The additional weeks holiday still cuts across the examination period for many students and teachers, who need time in work for marking.

The Autumn term is too long for just one weeks holiday.

The benefit of the Island is spending time outside in the holidays this will be less likely in February leading to more expensive childcare

The Easter term is often short, so doesn't need the long break in the middle

The first term is too long for the children and the 2 weeks in February is not a good time for a longer break.

The holidays are spread out more evenly throughout the year and a better way of doing this.

the holidays would not coincide with my family who live on the mainland making family holidays very difficult

The important thing is that either all schools on the island change or none as families like ours have a child at secondary school, one at college and I work in primary so if they are not all the same it will make it even harder to book a holiday!

This is my preferred option along with option 2

The last summer term seems a little too long.

The longer break should come in the Winter term

The proposal would benefit wealthy families who can afford foreign holidays. Would encourage children to spend more time indoors engaging with Social Media and computer games as weather in October and February is not very good.

The spring term is generally the shortest anyway, by making a 2 week half term then, you are shortening it further. This does not help with the long autumn term or second half of the summer term.

The spring term is often short as it is, this makes it ridiculously short.

The teaching weeks are fewer in the spring term anyway so maybe this break is less necessary.



The terms are too short compared with the Autumn terms.

the timetable should remain the same

The use of the spring term for the two week holiday impacts negatively for the children who will be getting settled after Christmas and then have a long break and then only a few weeks after have a long break.

The weather in February tends to very cold therefore a two week break at this time of year could be expensive to entertain children as it is often too cold/ wet for most to be outside for long periods of time. Also there are few indoor activities currently available at this time of year

These 2 weeks are the same as when some counties in the rest of the uk will be off so will not help parents with keeping holiday costs down.

Think this version is top heavy with holidays in the Spring term. This won't do examination preparations any good at all.

This again would seem fine

this food is so raw bear grills wont even eat it-Gordon ramsey

This gives a longer break at the coldest time of year when weather is poor. Not ideal.

This ia the best option.

This is awful.

This is my preferred option.

This is not ideal for students sitting exams - during the second term they should have as much contact time as possible with staff to aid revision and exam preparation.

This is worse than option 1A as it creates a longer break at a crucial time of the year.

This logically seems slightly better as the short half term comes after the longer summer holiday.

This looks to be the most effective way of scheduling breaks.

This one

This option does not address the idea that the Autumn term is too long and tiring... None of the proposals appear to have a solution for the apparent loss of learning / progress put down to the long summer break. I think the changes would possibly cause as many new problems as it seeks to address in the current system. My involvement with Island schools is as a supply teacher and any changes would be potentially problematic if only just over half the schools participated (27 of 48).

This option gives families two wet cold weeks to fill! At least in Oct the weather is half decent and holidays in Europe warm. February the whole of Europe is in winter.

This option is better as gives the children longer break half way trough the school year

This option is not as balanced for curriculum planning/implementation

This seems a fair proposal still giving both teachers and pupils a long summer holiday, yet allowing enough time to go away on a family holiday at a different time of year without interfering in children's learning time.

This seems preferable.

This timetable would mean an 8 week term in the first Autumn term. That is too long.

this will not address the 'problem' of the long term from sept to dec

This will not help the lead up to KS 2 sats

This will only benefit the more affluent families who can afford skiing or Southern Hemisphere holidays. The reality is that most families have low affluence levels.

This would be challenging for examined classes and their teachers.

This would be disastrous for GCSE/a-level coursework, and only mean that staff and students would then have to come in and work during the holidays anyway. Very unfair!

This would be my second option, though term times seem a little uneven.

this would be ok, although I prefer a long summer as by the time you have worked, it isn't that long for school staff

To cold for two weeks off in February, with very little for children to do.

To start and finish the year with 8 week long terms is ridiculous! Children need consistency, not 5,6,7,8 week terms. Make the terms even at 6 weeks, and fit the holidays around them.

Too disruptive in lead up to public exams.

Too much time off before ks2 sats!

totally disagree for those of us who will not be able to go abroad in Feb, how are we supposed to keep our children occupied when the weather is cold and wet?

Two week half term not necessary within a short Spring term.

Two weeks holiday in February is not welcome. UK weather is not conducive to outdoor leisure activities which is in the main the only thing that Island children have access to. The children have only been back to school for five weeks after having a two week break at Christmas.

Two weeks in Feb will effect art exams scheduled usually for start of March. Time is already lost to mocks and taster days at sixth form.

Two weeks in Feb would be difficult to entertain children and get them out and active if weather is poor. Do not assume people will take holidays away from the island. Most school holidays we are at home

Two weeks in February is not particularly appealing but I would rather February than October. I would personally like to take another week off the summer break and have a three week Christmas break.

Valuable Year 6 sats and Year 11 GCSE revision time take away from students. It is all about the education of our children.

We are happy for any shorting of holidays ur to both parents working full time

We have one child educated off the Island - this would cause problems in having a family holiday.

We really do not want 2 extra weeks off in winter... February is winter!!! Keep things as they are please. There is no need to change them.

When would option 2 start?

While the proposal is fine, I do not believe as 2 week February half term is necessary.

Who wants to be on holiday for two weeks in February? Would any sane person actually choose this as holiday time? What are you inflicting on parents / teachers?

Why change what works,look at the two tier system which worked for years then it was changed to three tier system which obviously didnt work and now we ard back again to the two tier again.Total waste of time and money for pupils,parents and teachers.Done more harm than good.

Why fix what isn't broken?

Worse than 1a- too near exams

Would be quite happy to support option 1A or 1B...preference given to option 1B but next option would be 1A

Would be very happy about this

Would prefer 2 weeks in October but either option is better than 6 weeks

Would prefer it to stay as it is now.

Would prefer the extra week in October because of the children being so tired

Would prefer the extra week to be in October half term rather than Feburary.

Wrong and no reason to make this change.