

Consultation questions – Structure of the School Year

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the school calendar could be better designed to support the way we live, learn and work today?
2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the school calendar could be better designed to support socio-economically disadvantaged learners?
3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the school calendar could be better designed to support learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)?
4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the school calendar could be better designed to support teacher and/or learner well-being and ease fatigue?
5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with an additional break week (taken from the summer break), dividing the longest term (autumn)?
6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with having the flexibility to de-couple (separate) the spring break from the Easter public holiday?
7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with an additional break week in May or June (taken from the summer break and added to the existing May break), to even term lengths?
8. To what extent do you agree or disagree with holding A level, AS level and GCSE results days in the same week?
(Currently examination results are distributed on the third and fourth Thursday in August respectively. Aligning results days would mean that WJEC GCSE results be moved forward to the same week as A level and AS level results.)
9. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Option 1: Maintaining the existing school calendar?
10. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Option 2 and the proposed draft direction: a school calendar with a two-week October break, a spring break at broadly the same time each year (despite when Easter falls), and a five-week summer break?
11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Option 3: a school calendar with a two-week October break, a spring break at broadly the same time each year (despite when Easter falls), a two-week May break, and a four-week summer break?
12. For 2025 to 2026, do you agree or disagree with the proposed term dates as set out for Options 2 and 3?
13. What, in your opinion, would be the likely effects of the proposals on the Welsh language? We are particularly interested in any likely effects on opportunities to use the Welsh language and on not treating the Welsh language less favourably than English
Do you think that there are opportunities to promote any positive effects?
Do you think that there are opportunities to mitigate any adverse effects?
14. In your opinion, could the proposals be formulated or changed so as to:
have positive effects or more positive effects on using the Welsh language and on not treating the Welsh language less favourably than English; or
mitigate any negative effects on using the Welsh language and on not treating the Welsh language less favourably than English?
15. We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them