

Dear Parents and Carers

**Re: Proposed Change to the School Calendar for 2025/26 Academic Year**

Thank you to everyone who has already responded to the proposed change of academic calendar for 2025/26.

As previously communicated, we are proposing to pilot a two-week October half-term in 2025/26. This will run from Monday 20 October - Friday 31 October. Christmas, February half-term, Easter and May half-term, will follow the same holiday structure as Sheffield's calendar.

However, in the summer term, we will end two days later than other Sheffield schools, finishing on Wednesday 22 July instead of Monday 20 July. This will mean pupils are in school for a total of 187 school days across the year. Most school calendars have 190 school days for pupils. However, this is not statutory for academies and there are a variety of approaches across the country, with more schools adopting different approaches to support pupil and staff wellbeing.

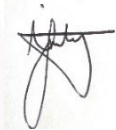
We believe this adjustment will benefit pupils by allowing more training time for staff and a shorter autumn term, which should lead to fewer absences for both pupils and staff. Therefore, we feel the reduction in three days of school across the year is beneficial. Also, as previously mentioned, this change will provide an opportunity for families to have an extended holiday in a slightly cheaper period.

With this approach, we can align staff training days across our schools. These days will focus on reviewing student data and planning upcoming curriculum steps, with some of this work done across our trust to encourage staff collaboration and support for all our pupils.

One element of feedback that has already been received is about the availability of childcare. We appreciate this will be a concern for many families. Therefore, if we move forward, we plan to partner with external providers to offer affordable childcare at one or more of the schools across our trust, making it accessible for parents.

Finally, given the significant change that is being proposed, we want to extend the feedback window. Therefore, we ask for all responses by Friday 29 November. Feedback can be sent on this form to [enquiries@annsgrove.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@annsgrove.sheffield.sch.uk) Additionally, you can speak to senior leaders at school when you see them on the gate in the morning/afternoon.

Yours faithfully



**Neil Miley**  
CEO



**Ann Farrar**  
Headteacher

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child(ren)'s name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren)'s class(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Feedback on proposal:

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