

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: University of Chichester Academy Trust Term dates – FINAL DECISION**

We recently piloted a two-week October half term to create an even spread of learning for our young people over the three terms. Having sought the views of all our parents and staff we have now taken the decision to maintain a two-week October half term as part of our Trust Academy term dates going forward. Interestingly, less than 4% of parents/carers stated that they were either not in favour or against the idea which contributed towards our final decision.

To date, we have found that the term dates for 2024/25 are having a positive impact on attendance. We will monitor absence data over the course of the academic year but are pleased to see that our most recent data demonstrates that now pupils are attending in line with or above local and national averages. Staff have commented on a marked improvement in the alertness, attitude and readiness for learning of our young people, and Staff Surveys as well as recruitment and retention discussions positively reference the difference the October half term break has had on retaining and attracting the best staff for our young people.

Once we have 3 terms of data to compare against previous years, we will share some key findings with you through a Summer or Autumn term newsletter. We also look forward to sharing highlights of the year and the way our Trust, with your support, is positively influencing and shaping the life and learning of all the young people and families we serve.

Below you will see the dates we have set for the next 3 years. In the next couple of weeks, Headteachers will share the INSET dates for 2025/26:

Term dates:	Autumn Term			Spring Term			Summer Term		
2025/2026	Start	Half-Term	End	Start	Half-Term	End	Start	Half-Term	End
	Wednesday 3 Sep 2025	Monday - Friday 20 Oct – 31 Oct 2025	Friday 19 Dec 2025	Monday 5 Jan 2026	Monday - Friday 16 Feb – 20 Feb 2026	Friday 27 Mar 2026	Monday 13 April 2026	Monday – Friday 25 May – 29 May 2026	Wednesday 22 Jul 2026
2026/2027	Start	Half-Term	End	Start	Half-Term	End	Start	Half-Term	End
	Tuesday 1 Sep 2026	Monday – Friday 19 Oct – 30 Oct 2026	Friday 18 Dec 2026	Monday 4 Jan 2027	Monday – Friday 15 Feb – 19 Feb 2027	Thursday 25 Mar 2027	Monday 12 Apr 2027	Monday – Friday 31 May – 4 Jun 2027	Wednesday 21 Jul 2027
2027/2028	Start	Half-Term	End	Start	Half-Term	End	Start	Half-Term	End
	Wednesday 1 Sep 2027	Monday - Friday 18 Oct – 29 Oct 2027	Friday 17 Dec 2027	Tuesday 4 Jan 2028	Monday – Friday 14 Feb - 18 Feb 2028	Friday 31 Mar 2028	Tuesday 18 Apr 2028	Monday – Friday 29 May – 2 Jun 2028	Friday 21 Jul 2028

Please be assured that we will continue to negotiate competitive rates for Holiday Club provision to ensure that parents/carers continue to have this as an option each term. We will also maintain our ongoing monitoring of the impact of our term dates and curriculum on the education, mental health and well being of our young people, enhancing our provision as required.

Kind regards



Jennese Alozie, CEO  
University of Chichester Academy Trust