

HM

October 2025



Branston Community Academy

Consultation on Proposed Two-Week October Half Term Break

Date: Wednesday 22 October 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Members of the Academy Community,

As part of our ongoing review of the school calendar, the Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team are seeking your views on a proposed change to the Academy's term dates. We are consulting on introducing a **two-week October half term break**, beginning from the **2026–2027 academic year**.

Current Arrangement

At present, Branston Community Academy follows the Lincolnshire term dates, with a **one-week half term break in late October** and three INSET (training) days spread across the year.

Proposed Change

The proposal is to:

- Extend the October half term to two weeks. In 2026/27, this will likely run from Monday 19th October to Friday 30th October 2026
- Maintain the statutory 190 pupil days by adjusting the school year accordingly
- Keep the same number of INSET days, though their placement within the calendar may change

Reasons for the Proposal

We believe there are significant potential benefits to a two-week half term in October:

- Improved wellbeing and work-life balance for both students and staff, allowing for a meaningful rest period during the longest and most demanding term.
- Reduced illness and absenteeism, as the additional break may help limit the spread of autumn colds and flu and allow recovery time.

Some potential considerations include:

- Childcare arrangements during a longer break.
- Impact on family holiday costs or availability.
- Adjustment to curriculum timing, especially for examination classes.
- Coordination with local schools, should neighbouring term dates differ.

The Academy is committed to carefully weighing all factors alongside community feedback.

Consultation Process

We invite all stakeholders - parents, carers, students, staff, and members of the school community - to share their views during the consultation period.

Consultation period: Wednesday 22 October – Wednesday 19 November 2025.

If you wish to respond with any comments, please email us at:

enquiries@branstonca.lincs.sch.uk.

Alternatively, submit written responses to the main office, clearly marked **“Term Dates Consultation.”**

Next Steps

Following the consultation:

1. Responses will be reviewed by the Governing Body and the Senior Leadership Team.
2. A final decision will be made and communicated to stakeholders in **December 2025**.
3. If approved, the new calendar would take effect from **September 2026**.

Summary

Branston Community Academy remains committed to promoting high standards of learning and wellbeing for all students. This proposal aims to support both, while maintaining the quality and continuity of education. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



MR J CARTER
Principal