

School term and holiday dates calendar 2026/27

Governing boards are responsible for setting the school term and holiday dates for each school. This calendar provides a framework for governing boards to set their dates. Individual school dates will vary, so please check the school website for the dates at specific schools.

AUTUMN TERM Wednesday 2 September 2026 to Friday 18 December 2026
Half Term Monday 26 October 2026 to Friday 30 October 2026
Religious Festivals Vikram New Year (Gujarat): Wednesday 21 October 2026 Diwali: Sunday 8 November 2026 Guru Nanak's Birthday: Tuesday 24 November 2026
CHRISTMAS BREAK Monday 21 December 2026 to Friday 1 January 2027 Includes Christmas Day and New Year's Day
SPRING TERM Monday 4 January 2027 to Thursday 25 March 2027
Half Term Monday 15 February 2027 to Friday 19 February 2027
Religious Festivals Ramadan: Predicted to begin evening of Tuesday 9 February 2027 Eid-ul-Fitr: Predicted to begin evening of Tuesday 9 March 2027 Easter Sunday: Sunday 28 March 2027
SPRING BREAK Friday 26 March 2027 to Friday 9 April 2027
SUMMER TERM Monday 12 April 2027 to Thursday 22 July 2027
May Day Monday 3 May 2027
Half Term Monday 31 May 2027 to Friday 4 June 2027
Religious Festivals Eid-ul-Adha: Predicted to begin evening of Wednesday 27 May 2027
SUMMER BREAK Begins Friday 23 July 2027 (end date to be confirmed)

The Education (School Day and School Year) Regulations (1999) require all maintained schools to open for teaching for 190 days a year, offering 380 sessions. This calendar sets out dates for 195 school days, with an additional 2 days for flexibility. These extra days allow governing boards to determine whether to close the school on specific religious holidays or to extend breaks, such as Christmas or summer, bringing the total to 197 days. Pupils are to be released for 5 days for staff development (INSET), which can be taken as full inset days or split into equivalent twilight sessions.