



## Elton Primary School & Nursery

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**Headteacher – Mr Kevin Manning**

Our Ref - PARL - 1172

14<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents /Guardians

I've been asked about holiday dates by a couple of parents so I thought it may be easier to write to everyone.

As a Local Authority Maintained School our school holiday dates are set by the Local Authority. I know it seems that we are finishing early this year but we finished at the same time last year. As you will probably be aware, our dates are the same as local schools such as Horn's Mill, Helsby Hillside, Helsby High etc. because they are all Local Authority schools too.

Some local schools may have different holiday dates but these will be schools that are parts of academy chains and so not run by the Local Authority and free to choose their own dates.

I know that this year some other Local Authorities are also breaking up a week later which doesn't help families – my eldest son (Wirral) and wife (Liverpool) finish a week later than me and my youngest son so I do empathise.

If you wish to plan ahead, the Local Authority dates for this year and the academic years of 2024-25 and 2025-26 can be found on the Local Authority website on the following site:

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/school-term-and-holiday-dates>

You will note on this website that it states:

**Who is responsible for setting a school's term and holiday dates?** Term dates and holidays in England are set for community and voluntary controlled schools, community special schools and maintained nursery schools, by the local authority (LA).

The only choice I get to make as a headteacher is when to select our 5 INSET days – although we are asked by the Local Authority to always make the first day in September an INSET day.

Our INSETs for next academic year (September 2024-July 2025) have just been agreed and so that is why we sent out a letter yesterday with the dates for that year so families know when to book holidays etc. Please don't get those dates mixed up with the current academic year.

Remember that for this academic year we break up tomorrow 15th December at 3:15pm and children return on Wednesday 3rd January.



I hope this helps to clarify any issues.

Kind regards

*K Manning*

K Manning  
Headteacher

