

Dear parents and carers

I hope that you are all well. I am writing to you to seek your views on a proposed change that Marple Hall School would like to make to the published term dates for the academic year of 2024-2025. In particular, we wish to make a change to the start and end date of the Christmas break December 2024 to January 2025.

Current planned term dates are agreed and published by Stockport Council and can be seen here: [School term dates - Stockport Council](#)

However, at Marple Hall School we wish to make the following changes for the benefit of the community.

- 1) Extend the Autumn term by one day, meaning school is open up to and including Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December (rather than Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> as currently planned)
- 2) Delay the official start of the Spring 2025 term to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January (rather than the 2<sup>nd</sup> as currently planned)

We would then use an INSET day to mean that the actual start date of the Spring term would be Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

This change has several key advantages including:

- 1) It avoids two unnecessary 'split weeks', which our data shows us has a significant negative impact on student attendance.
- 2) It provides the whole school community a prolonged break after New Year, which in recent years has proven popular and beneficial

As a maintained school Marple Hall must follow the original published term dates. However, Marple Hall will be an academy by the time the 2024-2025 school year commences. We therefore intend to consult with the school community now and then, assuming there are no significant objections, confirm the changes once the Autumn term starts in September. We hope that giving families 9 months' notice of the changes is acceptable. The proposed changes relate to Marple Hall School only, not to any other schools.

Interested parties can share their views on the proposed changes via this email address: [MHStermdates2425@marplehall.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:MHStermdates2425@marplehall.stockport.sch.uk)

**The consultation period is open now and closes on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024.**  
The MHS Governing body will then review all responses and make a final decision.

Best wishes,



Joe Barker  
Headteacher *Our Community — Our Future*

**A place of excellence where learners are proud of their school and confident of success**

