

6th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are exploring an important change to our academic calendar across all of Anthem Schools Trust Primaries for the **2026/27** school year and would like to invite your feedback as part of our consultation process.

The proposal is to introduce a two-week October half term in order to provide our young people with an extended break, giving them more time to rest and recharge early in the academic year. This adjustment will help reduce the pressures of a long first term and support overall wellbeing. The extended half term will also support families to have a holiday at a time when costs are cheaper than in the traditional half-term break, thus reducing the need to take holidays during term-time

To ensure that we do not reduce the total number of school days or teaching time, we propose to spread, where possible the days required from across the school calendar using inset days to extend the October half term. We will continue to provide 190 school days for our young people and the equivalent of 195 schools days for our staff.

**Key messages:**

- The October half term would be extended to two weeks from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2026 to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026.
- To accommodate this within the academic calendar, we propose to use our inset days as follows:
  - Term 1 to start on Wednesday 2nd September with one inset day Tuesday 1st September
  - Term 3 to start on Monday 4th January
  - Term 5 to start on Tuesday 13th April with one inset day Monday 12 April
  - Term 6 would end on Friday 23rd July
- The overall amount of teaching days and time will remain unchanged.
- The aim is to improve the balance between academic demands and personal well-being for both our young people and our staff.

We would very much value your input and feedback on this proposed change. We are committed to ensuring any decision we make reflects the best interests of our young people, families, and the wider school community.



**How to provide your feedback:**

Please use the link here: [BOS Consultation](#) to provide your feedback on this change.

We appreciate your support and involvement in this important decision-making process and look forward to hearing your thoughts. This part of the consultation will close on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025**.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ceri Braybrook". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ceri Braybrook  
Headteacher  
Boston West Academy