



HAILEY HALL SCHOOL

Believe | Strive | Achieve



16th March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you of a change to the October half term holiday period.

Over the last couple of years, I have received representations from staff and parent/carers concerning the Autumn Term, and the fact that this is the longest and the most exhausting term, for staff, parent/carers and pupils alike.

As a consequence, I have talked to other Special Schools about how they manage this and whether they have made any adaptations to School Holiday periods.

Some schools have informed that they have extended the October half term holiday to two weeks, with INSET days being held mostly as twilight (after school sessions) for staff.

It has been reported that this has had several advantages for all, as follows:

- To provide a shorter Autumn Term. As stated, this is the longest term and the most exhausting for staff, pupils/parents and carers. This is particularly the case in light of the new pupil intake settling in, setting and adapting new plans etc.
- Cheaper holidays. Having a longer half-term holiday may give access to cheaper holidays for some staff and families.
- An extra week's holiday is less disruptive to our pupils. We know that, due to the nature of our pupils, having INSET days mainly scattered throughout the year is more disruptive than the consistency of an extra week's holiday.
- To promote more focused training time. It is well recognised that shorter periods of training are usually better received and achieve more in terms of learning. This means that our staff will be trained to enhance their skills and knowledge. It is also recognised that pupils at the end of the Winter Term lack concentration, and learn less than at any other time in the year.

It has therefore been determined, and agreed with Trustees, that with effect from the 22/23 academic year, the October Half Term period will consist of two weeks.

The dates for this will be from 24/10/22 to 4/11/22. To achieve the second week of the holiday, 4 INSET days will be rescheduled as twilight sessions in term time, and the staff well-being day will be taken on the Friday of the second week. The fifth INSET day will be held at the beginning of the Autumn Term in September, as normal.

To summarise, INSET days will be rescheduled as follows:

Headteacher: Mr P Delamaine BSc (Hons)
Hailey Hall School, Hailey Lane, Hertford, SG13 7PB.
Telephone: 01992 465208 FAX: 01992 460851

Email: admin@haileyhall.herts.sch.uk Website: www.haileyhall.herts.sch.uk

Patron: Billy Wingrove

'Hailey Hall School is committed to safeguarding'



- 1 day in September on the first day of term (this year this will be on 1st September 2022).
- 8 x 3 hourly twilight sessions, usually scheduled on Monday after School.

There will be no change to the total number of days that your child will attend school in the academic year.

I am confident that this will be beneficial for all of us, for the reasons as outlined above.

However, if you have any questions concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact me via admin@haileyhall.herts.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely



Paul Delamaine
Headteacher
Hailey Hall School
Tel: 01992 465208
E-mail: pdelamaine@haileyhall.herts.sch.uk