

17 July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Inset Days - 2023-24

In line with all schools in Initio Learning Trust, our schools in the West, Bridport Primary, Burton Bradstock Primary, St Mary's Primary and Sir John Colfox Academy will increase the number of Inset days from 5 to 8 days in 2023-24.

We made this decision based on the training and development needs of our staff and the positive impact this would have on our children and young people. We are not alone in our approach. Outcomes for all pupils in trusts that have increased INSET days are higher than the national average and progress for disadvantaged pupils is increased, approaching that of their non-disadvantaged peers. We are committed to a full review at the end of the 2023-24 academic year.

Currently your school has the following Inset days: 1 September, 4 September 2023, 2 January, 19 February and 1 July 2024.

The following days have now been included: 30 October and 15 December 2023, 28 March 2024.

To support this change, the following actions were agreed:

- we will make the change temporary, to be reviewed
- we will review the impact of INSET days and share the results with stakeholders, specifically the possible impact of lost learning time on the educational outcomes of disadvantaged pupils;
- we will remove half days at the end of term to mitigate lost learning time;
- the day of the week our INSET days take place on will vary across the year to support working parents and part time colleagues;
- we will tag days onto holidays as much as possible;
- we will explore options to support families and working parents; and
- we will share the contents of training and its impact with all parents/carers.

Allenbourn Middle School • Bridport Primary School • Burton Bradstock CE Primary School • Colehill First School
Emmanuel CE Middle School • Hayeswood First School • Hillside First School • Lockyer's Middle School • Merley First School
Pamphill CE First School • Queen Elizabeth's School • St John's CE First School • St Mary's CE Primary School
St Michael's CE Middle School • The Sir John Colfox Academy • Verwood CE First School • Witchampton CE First School



Thank you all for your support and we look forward to working with you and your pupils in September.

Kind regards

Liz West
CEO

Brian Boyes
Director of Education (Secondary)

Laura Thomas
Director of Education (Primary)