Three-Week Mid-Year Term Break FAQs

Catholic Education Western Australia Limited (CEWA) will be moving toward the implementation of a three-week mid-year term break for its 150 schools for the 2027 school year. The three-week mid-year term break is part of CEWA's ongoing commitment to the wellbeing of staff and students.

To help with the implementation of the initiative some schools may be required to make small adjustments to their term calendars and/or school timetabling as required. Students will continue to have the same number of contact hours across a school year as they currently do.

1. What are the term dates for CEWA Schools in 2027?

Term 1: 28 January – 9 April 2027

Term 2: 26 April – 25 June 2027
(pending ANZAC Day observance)

Term 3: 19 July – 24 September 2027

Term 4: 11 October – 10 December 2027

2. How is the three-week mid-year term break being accommodated in the school year?

Consideration of the diverse needs across the CEWA system of schools (including size, location, demographic), along with Principal feedback, informed the decision to move to a new CEWA annual calendar, by:

- redistribution of four instructional days to elsewhere in the school year; and
- compensation of one day through increasing the daily school timetable by 2 minutes per day (as required by some schools).

3. What is the impact of the change for students?

- Students commence Term 1 two days earlier than Department of Education schools.
- Reduction of two pupil free days during term time (a benefit for working parents).
- Adjustment of the school timetable by two minutes per day (for some schools).

Importantly, the amount of instructional time for students remains the same and the total number of term weeks remain the same. The number of pupil free days for students (mid-term) reduces by two days in the year (seen as a benefit for working parents).

4. What is the impact of the change for teaching staff?

Teachers will deliver the same instructional teaching time over the course of the year and will continue to receive the same number of professional learning opportunities.

The Three-Week Mid-Year Term Break will enable teachers to have a longer break from delivering instructional teaching to students. The calendar allows for teachers to engage in some professional development during the mid-year term break.

5. How can working parents make the most of the additional week of leave for their children?

The CEWA system of schools, which includes 150 schools and approximately 75,000 students, has adjusted term dates to better align pupil-free days for families across multiple CEWA primary and secondary schools.

By knowing the term dates in advance, parents can plan more effectively.

Additionally, a standardised calendar highlights the community demand for independent OSHC services and holiday programs, providing a genuine opportunity for service providers to respond to community needs.

6. Will students in the country still be able to participate in Country Week?

Students would still be able to participate in Country Week sporting activities during the mid-year term break, with no interruption to their schooling.

7. How can I find out more about the research of the benefits supporting CEWA's decision for the three-week mid-year term break?

CEWA's Vision for Learning and Strategic Wellbeing Framework documents may be accessed here or on the CEWA website under 'Publications'.

8. **How will I know if my child's school timetable will be adjusted?**

   The Principal will communicate the school timetable and any changes required from 2027 onwards, to the school community through their normal channels.

9. **Will the change of the term dates impact school fees?**

   The amount of instructional time for students remains the same and the total number of term weeks across the year remain the same. The change of Term Dates to create a three-week mid-year term break will not result in any changes to school fees.

10. **How will the WA Government's review of public holidays impact this change?**

    The information of any changes to public holidays in WA will be reviewed and assessed for impact, once an update is released by the WA Government.