



Our rationale for finishing term at 2:15 pm

At the end of each term, Thorpe Lea Primary School finishes at 2:15 pm. Below is the rationale behind this.

Directed Time

The Headteacher is required to direct an allocated amount of teacher time per school year. Headteachers shouldn't direct teachers to work over the school holidays (though most teachers do through their own goodwill and dedication). An earlier finish, one a term, allows for teachers that are leaving to move out of classrooms and complete exit tasks; it allows for other teachers to complete tasks such as handover meetings with previous/next teachers or to complete in-class jobs such as assessments, planning, classroom admin, setting up etc. All of those tasks take longer than the additional hour and usually end up being completed in teachers own time during the holidays so that everything is ready for the new term.

Term Time Holidays

Unfortunately, we have many parents that take children away during term time for holidays. We do not condone this, and we want children to be in school 100% of the time. The early finish is a way in which we can help to offer parents an opportunity to get away early for holidays or begin long drives over the country. It's a small gesture but goes some way to show some empathy.

That Holiday Feeling

There is also the buzz that finishing early gives to the final day of school which gives that special feeling to the end of the term for our pupils. The end of term is always exciting, and this adds to that for our pupils!