



Maternity Leave & Pay Policy for Teachers

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Update Information

This model policy will be subject to ongoing review and may be amended prior to the scheduled date of the next review in order to reflect changes in legislation, statutory guidance, or best practice (where appropriate).

1. Scope

This policy applies to all teachers employed in schools and academies who are pregnant.

Within this policy, references to the school, Headteacher, Governing Board and the Chair of Governors will, for Academies and Academy Trusts, be taken to mean a reference to the appropriate equivalent within those establishments.

The recognised trade unions have been consulted.

2. Policy Purpose

This policy sets out Maternity Leave and Pay entitlements and the relevant procedure for employees (teachers) seeking to take maternity leave.

3. Statutory Maternity Leave

All pregnant employees are entitled to take up to 52 weeks' maternity leave regardless of length of service and number of hours worked.

3.1 Ordinary Maternity Leave (OML)

- Employees are entitled to take 26 weeks' OML.
- Employees can choose to start maternity leave any time from the 11th week before the expected week of childbirth (EWC)
- If the baby is born earlier than the 11th week before the EWC or before the date notified as the intended start date of maternity leave, then maternity leave will automatically start the day after the birth of the baby
- Maternity leave will also start automatically if the employee is off work for a pregnancy related illness in the 4 weeks before the EWC irrespective of what has been previously notified or agreed with the employer. Where this is the case, maternity leave will automatically start the day after the first day of sickness absence.

3.2 Additional Maternity Leave (AML)

- In addition to OML, employees are entitled to take 26 weeks' AML
- This will start immediately after OML ends i.e., there cannot be a gap between OML and AML.

3.3 Compulsory Maternity Leave (CML)

- Employees are not allowed to work for the 2 weeks immediately after the birth of their baby. It is compulsory to have that time off.

3.4 Keeping in Touch (KIT) Days

- Except during the first 2 weeks of compulsory maternity leave, employees may, by agreement with the school, work for up to 10 days during their maternity leave without losing maternity benefits (KIT days)
- The KIT days do not have to be consecutive and may be used for an activity, which would normally be classed as work under the contract of employment, for which employees would be paid. This can include training events and attending meetings etc.
- Any work and the type of work undertaken during the leave period must be by mutual agreement with the school; there is no obligation on the school to offer work or for the employee to accept it
- Part-days worked will count as whole days and employees will be paid their normal daily rate of pay for days worked offset by any SMP that may be due to them.

The template forms at Appendix [H](#) and [I](#) can be used to record KIT days and to submit for payment respectively.

3.5 Reasonable Contact during Maternity Leave

The employee's manager is allowed to make reasonable contact with the employee during their maternity leave to discuss such matters as their return to work arrangements. This is also useful in order to keep the employee informed of other matters such as job vacancies, significant developments in the workplace and training opportunities. This does not constitute 'work' and will not therefore count towards the 10 KIT days.

Employees should agree beforehand how they wish to be kept updated.

3.6 Accrual of Statutory Annual Leave during Maternity Leave

- Although teachers do not have a contractual entitlement to paid annual leave nor a specified annual leave year, they

do have a statutory entitlement to 28 days' (5.6 weeks) annual leave under the Working Time Regulations 1998 as amended

- A teacher who takes maternity leave must be able to take the 28 days' statutory annual leave at a time outside of their maternity leave period
- Any part of the teacher's maternity leave period (i.e., OML or AML) cannot be treated as annual leave
- The annual leave year, for the purposes of establishing annual leave entitlement for teachers on maternity leave, will be 1st September to 31st August to coincide with the academic school year
- The entitlement to 28 days' statutory annual leave is not an additional entitlement on top of the current school closure arrangements. This annual leave entitlement must be offset by any period of school closure that has taken place in the leave year in question both before and after the maternity leave period
- Where the return from maternity leave is so close to the end of the leave year that there is not enough time to take all the annual leave entitlement for that year, or overlaps into the next leave year, the balance of the leave can be carried over to the following leave year
- It is not possible to carry over the annual leave into the next leave year if there is time to take the leave in the current leave year i.e. in school closures
- As an employee has 28 days' statutory annual leave, the accrual of leave is not affected by what stage of maternity leave an employee is at or whether they are receiving pay
- Teachers do not have a contractual entitlement to paid leave on public or bank holidays. The Early May bank holiday is the only bank holiday that falls during term time. For the purposes of annual leave, the Early May bank holiday will be classed as a school closure which counts against the statutory annual leave entitlement of 28 days
- Under the Working Time Regulations, it is not possible for a payment in lieu of annual leave that has not been taken except on termination of employment, e.g. if the teacher decides not to return to work following the maternity leave period
- Please see [Appendix K](#) for examples of scenarios in respect of accrued annual leave.

4. Maternity Pay

4.1 Statutory Maternity Pay (SMP)

4.1.1 SMP Eligibility:

To qualify for SMP, employees have to meet conditions based on length of service and level of earnings as below:

- Employees must have at least 26 weeks' continuous service with their employer as at the 15th week before the EWC
- Their earnings must be equal to or above the lower limit for National Insurance Contributions – refer to [GOV.UK](#) for the prevailing Lower Earnings Limit (LEL).

4.1.2 SMP Entitlement:

SMP will be paid at:

- 90% of employee's average weekly earnings (higher rate) or
- [Prevailing Statutory Maternity Pay rate](#) (lower rate), (whichever is lower).

SMP is payable for 39 weeks. For the first 6 weeks it is paid at 90% of the average weekly earnings. The following 33 weeks will be paid at 90% of the average weekly earnings or at [the prevailing SMP rate](#) per week (whichever is lower).

SMP is paid by the employer in the same way, time and frequency as the employee's normal salary and is subject to

deductions for Income Tax and National Insurance Contributions.

SMP cannot be paid earlier than the 11th week before the EWC except where the baby is born before the start of the 11th week, in which case SMP will be paid from the day after the birth of the baby.

Payment of SMP is not conditional upon the employee returning to work and it is not refundable if the employee decides not to return to work after the end of maternity leave.

4.2 Maternity Allowance (MA)

If the employee does not qualify for SMP, they may be eligible to claim Maternity Allowance (MA) from their local your Job Centre Plus Office, provided they satisfy the National Insurance Contribution conditions based on their previous employment or self-employment. Eligibility for MA will be assessed and paid by the local Job Centre Plus Office.

MA payments are made weekly for a maximum period of 39 weeks and are paid out at the same rate as SMP (see paragraph 4.1.2 above).

If the employee has been assessed as not being entitled to SMP, they will be sent a SMP1 Form from the school's payroll provider giving reasons why SMP cannot be paid to them. The SMP1 Form is required for an application for MA.

MA is not refundable if the employee does not return to work after the end of maternity leave.

4.3 Occupational Maternity Pay (OMP):

[Entitlement to OMP set out in this policy is in accordance with the Conditions of Service for Teachers in England and Wales ("Burgundy Book"). Schools opting to pay OMP which is different to these arrangements should set out their local arrangements here]

4.3.1 OMP Eligibility:

To qualify for OMP, the employee must meet conditions based on length of service and level of earnings as below:

- The employee must have not less than 52 weeks' continuous local government service as at the 11th week before the EWC and
- The employee must return to work for 13 weeks, or an equivalent extended period if returning on reduced hours, at the end of the maternity leave.

OMP is paid at equivalent to 50% of the employee's salary for a period of 12 weeks.

Employees can choose to receive this payment as follows:

- Spread over a period of 12 weeks following the first 6 weeks' at SMP or MA (and concurrent with the lower rate SMP)
- Spread over the 33 weeks following the first 6 weeks' at SMP or MA (and concurrent with the lower rate SMP)
- When they return to work at the end of their maternity leave period when it will be paid to them as one lump sum.

In the event the employee does not return to work for the specified equivalent period after the end of their maternity leave, and OMP has been paid to them during their maternity leave, they will be required to repay the OAP element of the maternity pay including the corresponding National Insurance Contributions.

4.4 Maternity Payments - Summary

Entitlement to maternity pay and the corresponding qualifying criteria is set out below and in the Maternity Leave & Pay Chart at [Appendix A](#).

Teachers with 52 weeks' continuous service/locally recognised service at the 11th week before the EWC, and who meet the qualifying criteria for SMP as stated above, will receive maternity pay as follows:

- 4 weeks at full pay (offset against payments made by way of SMP)
- 2 weeks at 90% of salary (offset against payments made by way of SMP)
- 12 weeks at 50% of salary (OMP) plus lower rate SMP
- 21 weeks at lower rate SMP.

The remaining period of maternity leave i.e. 13 weeks will be on an unpaid basis.

Teachers with 52 weeks' continuous service/locally recognised service at the 11th week before the expected week of childbirth, but do not meet the qualifying criteria for SMP as stated above, will receive maternity pay as follows:

- 4 weeks at full pay (offset against payments made by way of MA)
- 2 weeks at 90% of pay (offset against payments made by way of MA)
- 12 weeks at 50% of salary (OMP) plus MA if eligible
- There is no entitlement to SMP
- There may be an entitlement to MA for the remaining 21 weeks.

NB: Eligibility for MA will be assessed and paid by your local Job Centre Plus Office.

Teachers with less than 52 weeks' continuous service/locally recognised service at the 11th week before the expected week of childbirth but who meet the qualifying criteria for SMP as stated above, will receive maternity pay as follows:

- 6 weeks at 90% of salary i.e. higher rate SMP
- 33 weeks at lower rate SMP
- There is no entitlement to OMP.

The remaining period of maternity leave i.e. 13 weeks will be on an unpaid basis.

5. Antenatal Care

Pregnant employees can request time off to attend antenatal care appointments. Antenatal care includes routine doctor/midwife appointments and relaxation/parent craft classes. Time off for appointments will be paid when recommended by a doctor, nurse, or midwife.

Employees wishing to take time off for these appointments should endeavour to give the Headteacher/Line Manager as much notice as possible.

Employees who are expectant fathers and partners of the expectant mother are also entitled to take unpaid time off during working hours to accompany her to antenatal appointments (see [Paternity/Partner Leave Policy](#)).

Request for time off can be made using the Antenatal Care Appointment Forms at [Appendix D](#).

6. Stillbirths and Early Births

Employees still qualify for maternity leave and pay if their baby:

- i. Is born early
- ii. Is stillborn after the start of the 24th week of pregnancy
- iii. Dies soon after being born.

Schools may wish to consider support for the employee through confidential counselling via their employee assistance programme.

In ii and iii above, the employee may be entitled to Statutory [Parental Bereavement Leave](#) or [Special Leave](#).

In the event of miscarriage before or during the 24th week of pregnancy an employee will not be able to claim statutory or contractual maternity benefits.

7. Notification of Pregnancy

It is in the employee's best interest to notify the school of their pregnancy as soon as possible so that the school can carry out a risk assessment to identify any risk to the employee and/or their baby.

Formal written notification of the pregnancy and intention to take maternity leave must be given by the 15th week before the EWC using the Maternity Leave Request Form at [Appendix E](#).

If the employee later wishes to change the intended start date, they will need to give at least 28 days' written notice before the amended start date, using the Notification of Change Form at [Appendix F](#).

If the employee fails to give the required notifications within the specified time limits, they may lose their right to maternity pay and to start maternity leave on the intended start date.

The Step-by-Step Notification Process and procedure is given at [Appendix C](#).

8. Return to Work

8.1 Returning to Work after OML

Employees are entitled to return to the same job on the same terms and conditions of employment as if they had not been absent unless this is not reasonably practicable due to a restructuring/redundancy situation.

8.2 Returning to Work after AML

Employee are entitled to return to the same job on the same terms and conditions of employment as if they had not been absent. However, where a restructuring/redundancy situation has occurred or there is some other reason why it is not reasonably practicable for the employee to return to the same job, they are entitled to return to another job that is both suitable and appropriate for them to do in the circumstances. This must be on terms and conditions that are no less favourable that would have applied had they not been absent.

8.3 Restructure/ Redundancy exercise during period of Maternity Leave:

Please refer to the HR model [Redundancy Policy](#) for further details of rights of employees who are on maternity leave during a redundancy exercise.

8.4 Return to Work – Notice Requirements

- If the employee intends to return to work at the end of the full maternity leave period (i.e. after 52 weeks), they will not be required to give any further notification of their return to work
- If the employee wishes to return to work from maternity leave earlier than the date originally agreed, they must give the school at least 21 days' notice of the revised date of return to work. The Notification of Early Return to Work Form at [Appendix J](#) can be used. Failure to give the appropriate notice may result in the return being delayed
- If the employee does not intend to return after their maternity leave, they are required to give the school notice of resignation in accordance with the terms and conditions of their contract of employment.

NB: Where the employee does not return to work (or returns to work for a period which is less than 13 weeks), any OMP which has been paid to them during their maternity leave, will have to be repaid including the corresponding National Insurance Contributions.

8.5 Flexible Working upon a Return to Work

If the employee wants to request returning to work on a different work pattern prior to their return, they can make a request using the school's [Flexible Working Policy](#).

9. Rights during Maternity Leave

Maternity leave is regarded as continuous service and does not constitute a break in service. All contractual terms and conditions (except for normal remuneration) should continue throughout a period of maternity leave including the accrual of annual leave. During this period, the employee will continue to be bound by the terms of their contract of employment including the implied term of trust and confidence and any terms as to notice of termination by them.

10. Teachers' Pension Scheme

If the employee is a member of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, any paid part of their maternity leave will count as pensionable service. This means that deductions will be made from all maternity pay they receive from the employer. The employee can elect to pay contributions for the unpaid period of maternity leave when they return to work.

11. Responsibilities: Employee and Headteacher/Line Manager

Please see [Appendix B](#) for specific responsibilities of the employee and those of the Headteacher/Line Manager.

12. Protection from Detriment or Dismissal

An employee has the right not to be subjected to detrimental treatment or be dismissed because they are exercising their rights under this policy in taking or seeking to take maternity leave.

13. Appendix A - Maternity Leave & Pay Chart – Teachers

At least 52 weeks' continuous service/locally recognised service with your employer at the start of the 11 th week before EWC	At least 26 weeks' continuous service/locally recognised service with your employer into the 15 th week before EWC	Entitlement to Maternity Pay	Entitlement to Maternity Leave
Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 weeks at full pay • 2 weeks at 90% of salary • 12 weeks at 50% of salary (OMP) plus SMP • 21 weeks at lower rate of SMP. 	26 weeks' OML 26 weeks' AML
Yes	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 weeks at full pay • 2 weeks at 90% of salary • 12 weeks at 50% of salary (OMP) plus MA if eligible • May be eligible for MA for remaining 21 weeks • No entitlement to SMP. 	26 weeks' OML 26 weeks' AML
No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 weeks at 90% of salary • 33 weeks at the lower rate of SMP • No entitlement to OMP. 	26 weeks' OML 26 weeks' AML
No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No entitlement to SMP • No entitlement to OMP • May be eligible for MA. 	26 weeks' OML 26 weeks' AML

SMP Rate: 6 weeks at the higher rate (90% of your salary)

33 weeks at [the prevailing Statutory Maternity Pay rate](#) (lower rate) or 90% of your salary whichever is the lower

NB: Eligibility to MA will be assessed and paid by your local Job Centre Plus Office.

Key:

SMP: Statutory Maternity Pay

MA: Maternity Allowance

OMP: Occupational Maternity Pay

OML: Ordinary Maternity Leave

AML: Additional Maternity Leave

EWC: Expected Week of Childbirth

14. Appendix B - Responsibilities of Employees and Headteacher/Line Manager

Responsibilities of Employees and Headteacher/Line Manager

Employees	Headteacher/Line Manager
<p>Employees have specific responsibilities they need to fulfil in order to be entitled to the appropriate maternity benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To inform the Headteacher of her pregnancy in order that any work-related risks can be fully assessed as early as possible • Where possible, to give as much notice as possible of antenatal care appointments • To give formal notification to the school of her intention to take maternity leave by the 15th week before the expected week of childbirth • To provide 28 days' notice if she wishes to change her maternity leave start date from an earlier notified date • To provide the original of the Maternity Certificate MAT B1 to the school. (This certificate is issued by the GP or midwife around the 20th week of pregnancy) • To inform the Headteacher of the child's birth date as soon as is practicable • To provide 21 days' notice of her intention to return to work from maternity leave if this is earlier than the original notified date • To provide notice in accordance with the terms of their contract of employment, if they do not intend to return to work after the period of maternity leave. 	<p>The Headteacher/Line Manager have a special duty of care towards employees who are pregnant, have recently given birth or are breast feeding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To undertake a risk assessment with the pregnant employee in order to identify any risks to the employee and/or her baby • To make any necessary adjustments as soon as possible following the assessment, and regular reviews must take place as necessary depending on the level of risk • To allow the employee to take paid time off to attend antenatal appointments/parent craft classes • To ensure the employee does not return to work for the first 2 weeks following childbirth • To keep in touch with the employee on a reasonably regular basis during the course of her leave so that she remains informed about developments at work • To agree and arrange with the employee any necessary KIT days during the course of their leave. (The school will also liaise with Schools HR to ensure appropriate salary payments are made for KIT days) • To allow the employee to return to the same job on the same terms and conditions (subject to what is stated in Section 8 of this policy) • To carry out a return to work interview with the employee • (Where the school has an SLA with the Schools HR Co-operative – Contracts Management Service, the school must provide any information related to the employee's maternity leave arrangements promptly to the Schools HR Contracts Management Service so that they can provide the necessary advice and write to the employee confirming maternity leave and pay entitlement within the required timescales).

15. Appendix C - Step-by-Step Notification Process & Procedure

Step-by-Step Notification Process & Procedure

Step 1	Employee advises manager of pregnancy	<i>As soon as possible once she is aware of her pregnancy.</i>
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Although this is left to the employee's discretion, it is in their best interest to do this as soon as possible so that a risk assessment can be undertaken to identify any risk to them and/or their baby.

Step 2	Employee formally requests maternity leave	<i>By the 15th week before Expected Week of Childbirth.</i>
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- Employees can use the Maternity Leave Request Form at [Appendix B](#) and send it to the school.
- Attach the original of the Maternity Certificate MAT B1 if available (if not, this must be forwarded as soon as possible and by the 11th week before EWC at the latest as SMP cannot be paid without this).

Failure to comply with this step could prejudice your entitlement to maternity benefits.

- (Where the school has an SLA with the Schools HR Co-operative – Contracts Management Service, the school will promptly forward the documents to the Contracts Management Service to action).

Step 3	School (or the Schools HR Contracts Management Service if applicable) writes to employee	<i>Within 28 days of receipt of written notification.</i>
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School (or the Schools HR Contracts Management Service if applicable) will confirm to the employee in writing their entitlement to maternity pay and leave and their expected date of return.

Step 4	If the employee wishes to change the start date of their maternity leave from a date notified earlier	<i>Minimum 28 days' notice required before start date of revised date.</i>
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If the employee wishes to change their maternity leave start date, from a date they have notified earlier, they must notify the school in writing. They can use the form at [Appendix E](#).

Step 5	Notification of actual birth date of your baby	<i>As soon as possible after birth.</i>
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The employee needs to notify the school in writing of the actual birth date of their baby and send a copy of the birth certificate. [See Appendix F](#).

Step 6	Notification of early return from Maternity Leave	<i>21 days' notice prior to the revised return date.</i>
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If the employee wishes to return to work earlier than the agreed date, they must notify the school in writing 21 days before the revised return date. Failure to give appropriate notice may result in the return being delayed. [See Appendix J](#).

Step 7	Return to Work	<i>On return date.</i>
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The employee's manager is required to carry out a return to work interview and a risk assessment with them.

16. Appendix D - Request for Time Off to Attend Antenatal Care Appointment Form

Request for Time Off to Attend Antenatal Care Appointment Form

Name:	
Post Title:	
Line Manager:	
I intend to take time off to attend an Antenatal Care appointment	
Proof provided? Y/N	
Date of Appointment:	
Time of Appointment:	
Employee's Signature:	
Date:	
Manager's Signature:	
Date:	

17. Appendix E - Maternity Leave Request Form

Maternity Leave Request Form

School: _____

Employee Details

Name: _____

Post Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

Pregnancy Details

Expected week of childbirth (EWC): ____ / ____ / _____ (dd/mm/yyyy)

I would like to start maternity leave on: ____ / ____ / _____ (dd/mm/yyyy)

Maternity Certificate (MAT B1) attached: Yes / No*

*(If No, please forward separately as soon as available)

Occupational Maternity Pay

Occupational Maternity Pay (OMP) represents payment equivalent to 12 weeks at 50% of salary. It is paid subject to your returning to work for a minimum of 13 weeks, or an equivalent extended period if returning on reduced hours, after your maternity leave.

If you qualify for Occupational Maternity Pay, please select one of the following options:

- I intend to return to work after my maternity leave, and I would like OMP to be paid monthly, as half pay for 12 weeks following the 6 weeks at SMP/MA
- I intend to return to work after my maternity leave, and I would like OMP to be spread over the 33 weeks following the 6 weeks at SMP/MA
- I intend to return to work but cannot commit at this stage, and I would prefer for OMP to be paid to me as a lump sum on my return to work
- I **DO NOT INTEND** to return to work following my maternity leave and am therefore not entitled to OMP.

Declaration: I understand in the event that I do not return to work and have elected to have OMP paid to me during my maternity leave, I will be required to repay this element of the maternity pay and corresponding National Insurance Contributions.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please return the request form to the school. Your written request for maternity leave must be received by the 15th Week of EWC or you may lose the right to maternity pay and to start maternity leave on the intended date.

18. Appendix F - Notification of Change in Maternity Leave Start Date

Notification of Change in Maternity Leave Start Date

School: _____

Employee Details

Name: _____

Post Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

Start Date of Maternity Leave

I wish to change the start date of my Maternity Leave. The leave was due to start on *(insert date)*.

The revised start date of my Maternity Leave will be *(insert date)*: _____

Notification of change to the start date of your maternity leave must be received at least 28 days before the intended start date of your Maternity Leave. Failure to give the required notice period may result in loss of your right to Maternity Pay and to start Maternity Leave on the intended date. Please return this form to school.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

19. Appendix G - Notification of Birth Date of Baby

Notification of Birth Date of Baby

School: _____

Employee Details

Name: _____

Post Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

Birth Details

My baby was born on *(insert date)*: _____

Please tick as appropriate:

This date was earlier than my due date. *Please confirm whether this affects my return to work date and let me know the revised date if appropriate*

This date was on or after my due date. My return to work date is unchanged from the date previously notified to me.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please return this form to the school

20. Appendix H - Keeping in Touch (KIT) Days Record Form

Keeping in Touch (KIT) Days Record Form

School: _____

Employee Details

Name: _____

Post Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

KIT Details

This form should be used to record Keeping in Touch (KIT) days worked by an employee on Maternity Leave. You may not exceed 10 KIT days during Maternity Leave.

Start Date	End Date	Balance	Employee's Signature	Manager's Signature

22. Appendix J - Notification of Early Return to Work

Notification of Early Return to Work

School: _____

Employee Details

Name: _____

Post Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

Return to Work

This is to notify you that I will be returning to work from maternity leave earlier than the previously notified date of (*insert date*): _____

The revised date of my return to work from maternity leave will be (*insert date*): _____

You must give at least 21 days' notice if you are returning to work earlier than the previously agreed return date. Failure to give the required period of notice may result in your return to work being delayed. Please return this form to school.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

23. Appendix K - Examples of Scenarios for Accrued Annual Leave

Examples of Scenarios for Accrued Annual Leave

Scenario 1

The teacher is taking OML only and starts maternity leave on 01 October.

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
		OML	OML	OML	OML	OML	OML					
School Closures		1 week		2 weeks Christmas		1 week		2 weeks** Easter		1 week	2 weeks	4 weeks

**March or April

The teacher will benefit from up to 9 weeks of school closure following her return from maternity leave to offset the statutory annual leave entitlement of 28 days (5.6 weeks). Therefore, there is no additional entitlement to annual leave.

Scenario 2

The teacher is taking OML only and starts maternity leave on 01 March.

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
							OML	OML	OML	OML	OML	OML
School Closures		1 week		2 weeks Christmas		1 week		2 weeks** Easter		1 week	2 weeks	4 weeks

**March or April

The teacher will already have had the benefit of 4 weeks of school closure prior to going on maternity leave. There will be an additional entitlement of 8 days which will be carried over to the next leave year as the teacher is returning on 01 September. This will be taken following the first 28 days of annual leave entitlement in school closure periods for that leave year.

Scenario 3

The teacher is taking OML and AML and starts maternity leave on 01 October.

Leave Year 1

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
		OML	OML	OML	OML	OML	OML	AML	AML	AML	AML	AML
School Closures		1 week		2 weeks Christmas		1 week		2 weeks** Easter		1 week	2 weeks	4 weeks

Leave Year 2

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
	AML											
School Closures		1 week		2 weeks Christmas		1 week		2 weeks** Easter		1 week	2 weeks	4 weeks

**March or April

Leave Year 1 – The teacher has had no annual leave but has an entitlement to 28 days (5.6 weeks) which will be carried over to the next leave year on her return from maternity leave in October.

Leave Year 2 – The teacher will benefit from 13 weeks of school closure to offset her annual leave entitlement for both Year 2 (28 days, 5.6 weeks) and following this the annual leave entitlement due to her for Year 1 (28 days, 5.6 weeks) i.e. 11.2 weeks in total. There will be no additional entitlement to annual leave.

Scenario 4

The teacher takes OML only and starts maternity leave 01 January but decides to resign and does not return at the end of the maternity leave period.

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
					OML	OML	OML	OML	OML	OML		
School Closures		1 week		2 weeks Christmas		1 week		2 weeks** Easter		1 week	2 weeks	4 weeks

**March or April

The teacher has not worked a full leave year and will be entitled to a pro-rated statutory annual leave entitlement i.e. 10 months (Sept to Jun). Pro-rata entitlement for 10 months = $28/12 \times 10 = 23$ days. The teacher will benefit from 3 weeks (15 days) of school closure prior to going on maternity leave and will therefore have an outstanding annual leave entitlement of 8 days. Therefore 8 days' pay in lieu will be due on termination.

Policy created: 04/2011

16 Jan 2025

Policy has been reviewed and refreshed. Refer to the Schedule of Amendments for full detail. [Schedule of amendments](#)

27 Oct 2022

Policy has been reviewed and refreshed. Refer to the Schedule of Amendments for full detail. [Schedule of amendments](#)

02 Nov 2021

Policy has been reviewed and refreshed. Refer to the Schedule of Amendments for full detail. [Schedule of amendments](#)