School Christmas Holidays 2026: Break-Up and Return Dates

Last day of term, bank holidays and first day back, Dec. 2026 to Jan. 2027

Edinburgh schools return Wed., Jan. 6



DATE	DAYS BEFORE EDINBURGH SCHOOLS RETURN	WHAT HAPPENS	COUNCIL	DONE
Fri., Dec. 18	**19**	Last day of autumn term	Edinburgh, Wales (not Powys), Essex, Devon	☐
Mon., Dec. 21	**16**	Christmas break starts	Devon	☐
Tue., Dec. 22	**15**	Last day of autumn term	Powys	☐
Fri., Dec. 25	**12**	Christmas Day, bank holiday	England, Wales, Scotland	☐
Mon., Dec. 28	**9**	Boxing Day substitute bank holiday	England, Wales, Scotland	☐
Fri., Jan. 1	**5**	New Year's Day, bank holiday	England, Wales, Scotland	☐
Mon., Jan. 4	**2**	First day back; Scotland 2nd January substitute bank holiday	Wales, Essex, Devon; bank holiday Scotland	☐
Wed., Jan. 6	**0**	Spring term starts	Edinburgh	☐

Not yet confirmed

Other councils and academies: Not covered; check your council or school

My notes

Source: City of Edinburgh Council, Welsh Government, Essex County Council, Devon County Council and GOV.UK bank holidays. Other councils and academies may differ; check your school.