

Report

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Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	14 June 2011
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Implementation of the 33 Period Week in Secondary Schools
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Update the Committee on the implementation of the 33 period week in all secondary schools

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) to note that all secondary schools will move to a 33 period week configuration from August 2011.

3. Background

- 3.1. In November 2010 a briefing paper was distributed to all Councillors providing information about the steps being taken to implement the introduction of a 33 period week in all secondary schools from August 2011.
- 3.2. The agreement to move to this configuration of the school week was taken in 2007 as part of a package of savings proposals for 2007/2008 on the basis that it allowed for access to all of a teacher's contractual commitment to 22.5 hours of class contact.
- 3.3. As well as efficiency arguments it was recognised that more periods offer more flexibility and the opportunity to introduce curricular changes that may bring about educational benefits for pupils such as more coherent vocational education or the provision of 2 hours of 'meaningful PE'.
- 3.4. The implementation of this efficiency saving was deferred following discussions with head teachers and trade union partners to take account of the full implementation of Curriculum for Excellence in August 2010.
- 3.5. Following discussions with head teachers and trade union partners it was agreed to allow each establishment to determine the shape of their week in order to promote ownership of the decisions made and to develop a model that is responsive to local needs.

4. The Review

- 4.1. From August 2010 head teachers have been leading and engaging in discussions with staff, pupils and parents about the shape of the school day and school week in their establishment.
- 4.2. Agreement has been reached in all schools and the agreed times for the start, finish, intervals and lunchtimes for all schools are shown in Appendix 1.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. The move to a 33 period week has implications for the all staff who work in a secondary school. Arrangements are being finalised in relation to changes that affect cleaning and catering staff, support staff and technician staff.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The implementation of the 33 period week will provide savings of £692,000 in a full year with some adjustment for transport changes as a result of the implementation of this saving.

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. None

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. This report does not present a new strategy, policy or plan and is therefore not subject to consultation or equality impact assessment.
- 8.2. The consultation arrangements included discussion with trade unions representatives of the staff involved in the changes.

Larry Forde
Executive Director (Education Resources)

25 May 2011

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Improvement Themes/Values

- ◆ Raise educational attainment for all

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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