

Report

Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	26 September 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	School Holiday Dates for Session 2024/2025
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ◆ advise on the proposed dates for school holidays in South Lanarkshire for session 2024/2025 following a consultation with stakeholders.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the proposed dates for school holidays and in-service days in South Lanarkshire for session 2024/2025, as detailed in Appendix 1, be approved.

3. Background

3.1. Children are required to attend school for 190 days with teachers working 195 days, five of which are deemed in-service days.

3.2. The school holiday dates normally fall within 3 terms and take account of national/ local public holiday dates:-

- ◆ Term 1 - from the beginning of the school year in August until Christmas;
- ◆ Term 2 - from the new year through until the spring break; *
- ◆ Term 3 - from after the spring break until the end of the school year in June.

3.3. In 2024/2025,* the Good Friday (18 April 2024) and Easter Monday (21 April 2024) holiday dates fall within the Spring break which takes place in the first full two weeks in April. (7-21 April 2024 inclusive)

3.4. Views were sought from a range of stakeholders on the proposed school holiday dates and in-service days for 2024/2025, including neighbouring local authorities, to try and achieve, where possible, a common pattern of school holiday dates across Lanarkshire for the benefit of parents and schools.

3.5. Arrangements were made also to consult with establishments, Parent Councils and employees through the Joint Negotiating and Consultative Committee (JNCC) for teachers and the Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) for Administrative, Professional, Technical and Local Government employees.

4. Consultation Outcome

- 4.1. The consultation with establishments, parents, Parent Councils and other stakeholders resulted in 3282 responses being made. The outcome of the consultation, is as follows:-

School Holiday Dates 2024/2025 and in-service days 2024/2025		
Total number of responses	3282	
The consultation asked do you agree with the proposed school holiday dates for:-	Agree	Disagree
Term 1 (August – Christmas)	(77%)	(24%)
Term 2 (New Year – Spring Break)	(78%)	(23%)
Term 3 (Spring Break – June)	(83%)	(18%)
Of the 1174 comments – 410 (35%) suggested the summer holidays should be shorter.		
Of the 1174 comments – 225 (19%) suggested the October holidays should be 2 weeks – most commented the additional week at October should be taken from the summer holiday allocation.		

- 4.2. The JNCC for teachers and the JCC for APT&C employees agreed with the proposed dates for 2024/2025.

5. Proposal

- 5.1. Of the stakeholders consulted, the majority agreed with the proposed holiday dates. It is proposed, therefore, that the pattern for the school holidays and in-service days for the 2024/2025 session, as highlighted in Appendix 1, be adopted. The arrangements set out are generally in line with neighbouring authorities.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. None

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. None

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. There are no significant risk implications in terms of the information contained within this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. The assessment is that the proposals do not have any adverse impact on any part of the community covered by equalities legislation, or on community relations, and the holiday dates are published widely on the Council website and through schools and educational settings.
- 10.2. Consultation has taken place with a range of stakeholders, including the Trades Unions and Parent Councils.

Carole McKenzie
Executive Director (Education Resources)

7 September 2023

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ♦ Education and learning: inspiring learners, transforming learning, strengthening partnerships

Previous References

- ♦ Education Resources Committee – 15 November 2022

List of Background Papers

- ♦ Responses from consultation exercise

Contact for Further Information

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

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Education Resources

Proposed Dates

School holiday Dates Session 2024/2025

Break	Holiday dates		
First Term	<i>Teachers In-service</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>12 August 2024</i>
	<i>In-service day</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>13 August 2024</i>
	Pupils return	Wednesday	14 August 2024
September Weekend	Closed on Re-open	Friday Tuesday	27 September 2024 1 October 2024
October Break	Closed on Re-open	Monday Monday	14 October 2024 21 October 2024
	<i>In-service day</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>11 November 2024</i>
Christmas	Closed on Re-open	Monday Monday	23 December 2024 6 January 2025
Second Term			
February break	Closed on	Monday Tuesday	17 February 2025 18 February 2025
	<i>In-service day</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>19 February 2025</i>
Spring break/Easter	Closed on Re-open	Monday Tuesday	7 April 2025 22 April 2025
Third Term			
	<i>In-service day</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>1 May 2025</i>
Local Holiday	Closed	Monday	5 May 2025
Local Holiday	Closed on Re-open	Friday Tuesday	23 May 2025 27 May 2025
Summer break	Close on	Wednesday	25 June 2025
Proposed in-service days	Monday 18 August and Tuesday 19 August 2025		

Notes

- ◆ Good Friday falls on Friday, 18 April 2025
- ◆ Lanark schools will close Thursday, 5 June 2025 and Friday, 6 June 2025
- ◆ Schools will close at 2.30pm on the last day of terms 1 and 2 (20 December 2024 and Friday, 28 March 2025)
- ◆ Schools will close at 1pm on the last day of term 3 25 June 2025)
*Two in-service days proposed 18 & 19 August 2025.