

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Education Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>9 November 2010</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Education Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>School Holiday Dates for Session 2011/2012</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ consider the proposed dates for school holidays in South Lanarkshire for session 2011/2012 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 in South Lanarkshire for session 2011/2012, 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. However, it should be noted that the Government has proposed that there is an additional national holiday in June 2012 to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
- 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. Views were sought from a range of stakeholders on the proposed school holiday dates for 2011/2012 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. The Scottish Government also asked that local authorities give consideration to designating St Andrew's Day as a school holiday. This would not be an additional day as is being proposed for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee but a day that would require to be taken from the existing core pattern of holiday dates. Further details on this are provided in paragraph 4.3 of this report.
- 3.4. 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 outcome of the consultation with establishments, parents, Parent Councils and other stakeholders that resulted in 350 responses being made to this particular part of the consultation is as follows:

<b>School Holiday Dates 2011/2012</b>		
Total number of responses	350	
The consultation asked do you agree with the proposed school holiday dates for:-	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>
Term 1 (August – Christmas)	71% (245)	29% (102)
Term 2 (New Year – Spring Break)	84% (290)	16% (54)
Term 3 (Spring Break – June)	68% (236)	32% (110)
The JNCC for teachers and the JCC for APT&C employees agreed with the proposed dates for 2011/2012.		

- 4.2. A range of comments were also made by consultees on the proposed school holiday dates including views on the proposals for the change to the May holiday weekend to accommodate the additional national holiday in 2012 to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
- 4.3. During the consultation, consultees were asked for their views on whether, in the future, St Andrew's Day on 30 November should be designated as a school holiday. Over 330 responses were made on-line to this particular part of the consultation. There was no clear consensus of opinion and a variety of views expressed including some that highlighted that children and young people benefit more by actively engaging in activities to celebrate St Andrew's Day in school. It is proposed, therefore, to continue to have further dialogue with stakeholders.

#### **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 for the 2011/2012 session, as highlighted in Appendix 1, be adopted. The arrangements set out are generally in line with neighbouring authorities.
- 5.2. Teachers will return to two in-service days (Monday 15 August 2011 and Tuesday 16 August 2011) with the remaining 3 in-service days agreed locally following consultation with schools and trades unions. Pupils return on Wednesday 17 August 2011.
- 5.3. In 2011/2012, the Good Friday (6 April) and Easter Monday (8 April) holiday dates fall within the Spring break which takes place in the first two weeks in April.

#### **6. Employee Implications**

- 6.1. None

#### **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. None

#### **8. Other Implications**

- 8.1. None

## **9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 9.1. An equality impact assessment has been carried out on the recommendations contained in the report and, where issues were identified, remedial action has been taken. 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 results of the assessment will be published on the Council website.
- 9.2. Consultation has taken place with a range of stakeholders, including the Trade Unions and Parent Councils.

**Larry Forde**  
**Executive Director (Education Resources)**

19 October 2010

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

- Raise Educational Attainment for All

### **Previous References**

None

### **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

## Draft School holiday Dates Session 2011/2012

Break	Holiday dates		
<b>First Term</b>	Teachers return	Monday	15 August 2011
	Pupils return	Wednesday	17 August 2011
September Weekend	Close	Thursday	22 September 2011
	Re-open	Tuesday	27 September 2011
October Break	Close on	Friday	14 October 2011 <b>(43)</b>
	Re-open	Monday	24 October 2011
Christmas	Close on	Wednesday	21 December 2011 <b>(43)</b>
<b>Second Term</b>	Re-open	Monday	9 January 2012
February break	Close on	Friday	10 February 2012
	Re-open	Wednesday	15 February 2012
<b>Third Term</b>	Close on	Friday	30 March 2012 <b>(58)</b>
Easter/Spring break	Return	Monday	16 April 2012
Local Holiday	Closed	Monday	7 May 2012
Local Holiday	Close on Re-open on	Thursday Wednesday	31 May 2012 6 June 2012
Summer break	Close on	Thursday	28 June 2012 <b>(50)</b>
Proposed in-service days	*Proposed date for teachers return (subject to consultation)	Monday	13 August 2012
	Date for pupils to return	Wednesday	15 August 2012

## Notes

- ♦ Good Friday falls on Friday, 6 April 2012
- ♦ Lanark schools will close 7 and 8 June 2012
- ♦ Schools will close at 2.30pm on the last day of terms 1 and 2 (Wednesday 21 December 2011 and Friday 30 March 2012 Easter/spring break)
- ♦ Schools will close at 1pm on the last day of term 3 (Thursday, 28 June 2012)  
Two in-service days proposed for Monday 13 August 2012  
And Tuesday 14 August 2012 (subject to consultation)

**Note: Weekend in May moved to 1 and 4 June 2012 and an additional bank holiday on 5 June 2012 due to the Queen's Jubilee**