

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 19 MAY 2015

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2017/18 AND 2018/19

REPORT BY MARGO WILLIAMSON, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – PEOPLE

ABSTRACT

This report seeks the approval of the Children and Learning Committee to finalise dates for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 school terms and holiday dates arising from a consultation exercise with school staff, Parent Councils and Trade Unions.

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) approve the dates for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 school terms and holidays
- (ii) approve a change to the current policy of adopting the first two weeks in October as the October school holiday fortnight
- (iii) approve amendments to arrangements for in-service days

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/COPORATE PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Our children and young people are confident individuals, effective contributors, successful learners and responsible citizens.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Reference is made to Report 390/14 which was approved at the Children and Learning Committee on 23 September 2014. This report authorised a consultation exercise on the draft schedule of school terms and holiday dates for school sessions 2017/18 and 2018/19.

3.2 The principal issues which the consultation focused on were:

- The precise dates of the Christmas holidays
- The dates for the long weekends in February and timing of Spring holiday
- The wish or otherwise to continue to adopt the first two weeks in October as the October school holiday fortnight
- The dates for 'one day' holidays, namely:
 - St Andrew's Day
 - May Holiday
- The dates of In-service school closure days

3.3 The consultation was in the form of an electronic survey.

4. CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 49 responses were received in total. These included 37 responses from whole school staff groups, 11 responses from Parent Councils and 1 response from a trade union. 96% of respondents agreed with the proposed dates for the Christmas holiday period. 90% of respondents agreed with the proposed dates for the long weekend in February and the timing of the Spring holiday period.
- 4.2 85% of respondents agreed with the continuing policy of adopting the first two weeks in October as the October school holiday fortnight. However, comments related to this question demonstrated that aligning the October holiday period with neighbouring authorities was a priority for respondents. Neighbouring authorities determine the second and third weeks in October as the school holiday period.
- 4.3 There was a mixed response to the questions about the dates for the May Day and St Andrews day public holidays and proposed In-Service pupil closure days with 55% and 53% of respondents agreeing to these. The majority of responses demonstrated that public holidays should be as near to the weekend as possible and that In-Service days should not split a public holiday and weekend day. This feedback will be provided to the process for setting public holidays locally.

5. PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The policy of adopting the first two weeks in October as the school holiday period in Angus should be discontinued. It is proposed that in order to align the Angus school holidays period with Dundee City and Perth and Kinross Councils, approval should be given to adopting the second and third weeks of October as the Angus school holiday period commencing in session 2017/2018 and from thereon.
- 5.2 Currently, schools have different days allocated as in-service days in November but share the same nominated days for the other four in-service days. It is proposed that all schools should have the same dates for in-service training for all five nominated days.
- 5.3 The school terms and holiday dates for 2017/2018 as outlined in Appendix 1 should be approved by the Children and Learning Committee and thereafter shared with schools and parents.
- 5.4 The school terms and holiday dates for 2018/2019 as outlined in Appendix 2 should be approved by the Children and learning Committee and thereafter shared with schools and parents.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from the terms of this report.

7 HUMAN RIGHTS

There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

8 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

REPORT AUTHOR: Pauline Stephen, Head of Schools and Learning

EMAIL DETAILS: Stephenp@angus.gov.uk

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1: School Terms and Holiday Dates 2017/2018

Appendix 2: School Terms and Holiday Dates 2018/2019

ANGUS COUNCIL PEOPLE DIRECTORATE

<i>School Terms and Holidays 2017/2018</i>				Pupil School Days
AUTUMN TERM	START	<u>Tuesday</u> 15 August 2017	<i>STAFF ONLY</i> (In-Service Closure Day 1 – all schools)	33
	END	WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST 2017 Full time commencement of P1 pupils 11 September 2017 FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER 2017		
AUTUMN HOLIDAY		Saturday 7 October 2017 to Sunday 22 October 2017		
WINTER TERM	START	MONDAY 23 OCTOBER 2017		47
	END	<u>Wednesday</u> 29 November 2017 Thursday 30 November 2017 <u>Friday</u> 01 December 2017	(In-Service Closure Day 2 – all schools) (St Andrew's Day Holiday) (In-Service Closure Day 3 – all schools)	
		FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER 2017		
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY		Saturday 23 December 2017 to Sunday 07 January 2018		
SPRING TERM	START	MONDAY 8 JANUARY 2018		57
	END	<u>Thursday</u> 15 February 2018 Friday 16 February 2018 Monday 19 February 2018 FRIDAY 30 MARCH 2018	(In-Service Closure Day 4 – all schools) ALL SCHOOLS (Mid-Term Holidays)	
SPRING HOLIDAY		Saturday 31 March 2018 to Sunday 15 April 2018 (includes Easter Monday – 02 April 2018)		
SUMMER TERM	START	MONDAY 16 APRIL 2018		53
	END	Monday 7 May 2018 <u>Monday</u> 28 May 2018 FRIDAY 29 JUNE 2018	(May Holiday – all schools) (In-Service Closure Day 5 – all schools)	
TOTAL				190
2018 / 2019				
AUTUMN TERM	START	<u>Monday</u> 13 August 2018	<i>STAFF ONLY</i> (In-Service Closure Day 1 – all schools)	34
	END	TUESDAY 14 AUGUST 2018 Full time commencement of P1 pupils 10 September 2018 FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER 2018		
AUTUMN HOLIDAY		Saturday 7 October 2018 to Sunday 22 October 2018		

ANGUS COUNCIL PEOPLE DIRECTORATE

<i>School Terms and Holidays 2018/2019</i>				Pupil School Days
AUTUMN TERM	START	<u>Monday</u> 13 August 2018	<i>STAFF ONLY</i> (In-Service Closure Day 1 – all schools)	34
	END	TUESDAY 14 AUGUST 2018 Full time commencement of P1 pupils 10 September 2018 FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER 2018		
AUTUMN HOLIDAY		Saturday 6 October 2018 to Sunday 21 October 2018		
WINTER TERM	START	MONDAY 22 OCTOBER 2018		47
	END	<u>Wednesday</u> 28 November 2018 <u>Thursday</u> 29 November 2018 Friday 30 November 2018	(In-Service Closure Day 2 – all schools) (In-Service Closure Day 3 – all schools) (St Andrew's Day Holiday)	
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY		Saturday 22 December 2018 to Sunday 06 January 2019		
SPRING TERM	START	MONDAY 7 JANUARY 2019		62
	END	<u>Thursday</u> 21 February 2019 Friday 22 February 2019 Monday 25 February 2019 FRIDAY 05 APRIL 2019	(In-Service Closure Day 4 – all schools) ALL SCHOOLS (Mid-Term Holidays)	
SPRING HOLIDAY		Saturday 06 April 2019 to Monday 22 April 2019 (includes Easter Monday – 22 April 2019)		
SUMMER TERM	START	TUESDAY 23 APRIL 2019		47
	END	Monday 6 May 2019 <u>Monday</u> 27 May 2019 FRIDAY 28 JUNE 2019	(May Holiday – all schools) (In-Service Closure Day 5 – all schools)	
			TOTAL	190
SUMMER HOLIDAY		Saturday 29 June to Sunday 11 August 2019		