

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 15 AUGUST 2019

ADDITIONAL IN-SERVICE DAYS SCHOOL SESSION 2019-2020

BACKGROUND

On 25 April 2019, the Scottish Negotiating Committee for Teachers (SNCT) reached agreement on a three-year pay deal for teachers' pay. As part of the package of wider measures, it was agreed that two additional in-service days should be made available in the academic year 2019-20 to support professional learning.

The SNCT has agreed that the two additional in-service days, should allow schools time to focus on key issues such as workload, additional support and empowering schools. The content of these days will be determined between the professional associations and employers and there is an expectation that Regional Collaborative (RIC) support will provide opportunities for collaborative practice across local authorities.

Regulation 5 of the Schools General (Scotland) Regulations 1975, as amended, requires schools to be open for a minimum of 190 days in a school year. Children and young people therefore attend school for 190 days each year and schools open for an additional 5 days a year for teacher and support staff in-service training. In school session 2019/20 learners will attend school for 188 days and there will be 7 planned in-service days. Section 133 (4) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 allows Scottish Ministers, on application; to modify the regulation of 190 school days.

On the 17th May 2019 the Scottish Government wrote to local authorities confirming these arrangements.

School term times, holiday dates including arrangements for in-service days are the subject of consultation with staff, parent council and neighbouring local authorities and agreed in advance. As such the term times and holiday days for Angus schools have been agreed until 2021/22 and available on the Angus Council website at:-

https://www.angus.gov.uk/schools_and_young_people/primary_school/school_holidays

ANGUS ARRANGEMENTS

Following confirmation from the Scottish Government that two additional In-service days are to be arranged for Angus schools in school session 2019/20, the Director of Schools and Learning undertook consultation in relation to potential dates with the Angus Joint Negotiating Committee for Teachers (AJNCT) and Tayside regional improvement collaborative colleagues. The aim of these discussion was to agree dates that met the aspirations of our professional associations, provided an opportunity for regional work and allowed us to inform families of the changed arrangements prior to the summer recess.

It has been agreed locally to arrange additional in-service days for session 2019/20 on:-

- Friday 4 October 2019
- Tuesday 26 May 2020

All Tayside schools will be closed to children and young people on Friday 4 October in order to provide opportunities for school to school collaboration.

The Director of Schools and Learning has written to Scottish Ministers to request dispensation in line with Section 133 (4) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 for agreement to close Angus schools to children and young people to allow for two additional in-service days for professional learning session 2019/20 on the above dates. This has been agreed and this change to the Angus school calendar has

been updated on the website and will be communicated to families through school level communications.

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