

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 13 JUNE 2017

CHANGES TO THE SECONDARY SCHOOL WEEK AND ANGUS EXTRA

Background

The secondary school week in Angus has been subject to debate and scrutiny at previous Children and Learning Committees following wide-ranging consultation. It is agreed that our eight secondary schools will move to a new timetable structure from August 2017. This will mean that secondary schools will now deliver 33 learning periods of 50 minutes over four longer days Monday to Thursday and one shorter day on a Friday. The parental leaflet in appendix 1 explains the changes. Our young people and staff are still in school for the same period of time as the existing model.

Our eight secondary schools have worked together over the last few months to prepare for this change. This includes practical elements such as the management of school to family administration (and vice versa) and effective absence notification and monitoring. Importantly, teachers have been preparing for curriculum opportunities that the 33 period week opens up. In conjunction with these changes, further work has been undertaken with Dundee and Angus College to align opportunities for our young people and we are extending the 'Angus Works' programme to offer more council-based work experience placements. Schools continue to work with local businesses as part of the Developing Young Workforce national policy driver to enhance the experience of our young people and support economic development.

The timetable organisation also opens up an opportunity to provide a range of extra-curricular optional activities on a Friday afternoon. The leaflet in appendix 2 highlights what is available for Angus young people. A focus on physical activity aligns with our objectives to promote healthy lifestyles across Angus. We will monitor take up of activities and evaluate further to endeavour, as far as possible, to provide activities that our young people wish to participate.

Appendix 1: Leaflet - Changes to Angus Secondary School Week

Appendix 2: Leaflet – Angus Extra

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