

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 13 JUNE 2017

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2019/20, 2020/21 AND 2021/22

REPORT BY PAULINE STEPHEN, HEAD OF SCHOOLS AND LEARNING

ABSTRACT

This report seeks the approval of the Children and Learning Committee for a consultation exercise on proposals for the 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 school terms and holiday dates.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee:

- (i) Authorise a consultation exercise on the draft schedule of School Terms and Holiday Dates for session 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22, provided in Appendices 1, 2 and 3.
- (ii) Note that the outcomes of this exercise, if authorised will be the subject of a future report to the Committee.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/CORPORATE 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 It is a duty of the Council to set a schedule of School Terms and Holiday Dates. These dates must be set following consultation, and, must comprise a total pupil school year of 190 days, unless exceptional circumstances apply. In addition, the Council must set aside 5 days within the school year for the purposes of In-Service Training for staff.

3.2 Reference is made to the meeting of the Education Committee of 24 April 2009 (Article 9 refers) and the approved proposal that, in future, the October school holiday should commence on the first Monday of October each year. Reference is also made to the meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 10 November 2015 (Article 7 refers) which confirms the result of a consultation on the proposal to amend the October school holiday to the second and third week of October. The recommendation following this consultation was that the October school holiday should not be amended and it continues to start in the first week of October.

4. CURRENT POSITION

4.1 The schedule provided in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 represents a pattern which is consistent with that adopted in previous years.

4.2 The dates proposed for the Spring holidays in 2019, 2020 and 2021 are consistent with the pattern which has been adopted for some time, which includes Easter Monday in any given year.

- 4.3 Over the last few years, exchanges of correspondence about school terms and holidays have taken place with neighbouring Councils. Each Council undertakes similar consultation exercises. The clear outcome of recent exercises is that it is proving very difficult to agree a common pattern for each and every school holiday period, in particular, the October holiday.
- 4.4 However, the timings of the Summer holiday and the Christmas/New Year holiday are very similar to those of our neighbouring authorities. We have also reached an informal agreement that the Spring holiday should always start on the first Monday in April.
- 4.5 While there appears to be little prospect of a uniform pattern of schools holidays/terms, neighbouring Councils should be given the opportunity to comment on the attached tables in accordance with standard consultation procedures.
- 4.6 Angus Council has worked hard to reduce the need to use schools as polling stations but a small number of schools continue to be used for this function. As part of the consultation views will be sought on the movement of in-service days to coincide with polling days to reduce the impact on children and young people and their families.
- 4.7 In 2010 the Education Committee agreed to the setting of school holiday dates several years in advance. Such an approach allows parents and staff to plan with a greater degree of certainty. Publication of school holiday dates three to four years in advance helps reduce related anxieties sometimes expressed by individual parents and parent groups. Aberdeenshire and Perth & Kinross Councils have also begun to set school terms and holidays two or more years in advance.

5. PROPOSALS

A consultation on proposed future school holidays should take place.

The principal constraint under which the proposed schedule must operate is the need to fix precisely 190 pupil days in the course of the school year.

The principal issues on which comment is now being sought are:

- The precise dates of the Christmas Holidays
- The dates for the long weekends in February and timing of the Spring holiday
- The dates of In-service school closure days including potential alignment to polling days

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from the terms of 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.

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List of Appendices: Appendix 1 – School Terms and Holidays 2019/20
Appendix 2 – School Terms and Holidays 2020/21
Appendix 3 – School Terms and Holidays 2021/22

Appendix 1

ANGUS COUNCIL CHILDREN AND LEARNING DIRECTORATE

School Terms and Holidays 2019/2020

Autumn Term

Tuesday 13 August 2019 – Staff Only (In-Service Closure Day 1)

Wednesday 14 August 2019 – Term starts

Full time commencement of P1 pupils 26 August 2019

Friday 4 October 2019 – Term ends

38 Pupil School Days

Autumn Holiday: Saturday 5 October 2019 to Sunday 20 October 2019

Winter Term

Monday 21 October 2019 – Term starts

Wednesday 4 December 2019 – In-Service Closure Day 2

Thursday 5 December 2019 – In Service Closure Day 3

Friday 6 December 2019 – St Andrew's Day Holiday

Friday 20 December 2019 – Term ends

42 Pupil Schools Days

Christmas Holiday: Saturday 21 December 2019 to Sunday 5 January 2020

Spring Term

Monday 6 January 2020 – Term starts

Thursday 13 February 2020 – In-Service Closure Day 4

Friday 14 February 2020 to Monday 17 February 2020 –Mid-Term Holidays

Friday 3 April 2020 – Term ends

62 Pupil School Days

Spring Holiday: Saturday 4 April 2020 to Sunday 19 April 2020
(includes Easter Monday – 13 April 2020)

Summer Term

Monday 20 April 2020 – Term starts

Monday 4 May 2020 – May Holiday

Monday 25 May 2020* – In- Service Closure Day 5

Friday 26 June 2020 – Term ends

48 Pupil School Days

Total: 190 Pupil School Days

Summer Holiday: Saturday 27 June 2020 to Monday 10 August 2020

*May be reviewed to align with any election

Appendix 2

ANGUS COUNCIL CHILDREN AND LEARNING DIRECTORATE

School Terms and Holidays 2020/2021

Autumn Term

Tuesday 11 August 2020 – Staff Only (In-Service Closure Day 1)

Wednesday 12 August 2020 – Term starts

Full time commencement of P1 pupils 24 August 2020

Friday 2 October 2020 – Term ends

38 Pupil School Days

Autumn Holiday: Saturday 3 October 2020 to Sunday 18 October 2020

Winter Term

Monday 19 October 2020 – Term starts

Wednesday 2 December 2020 – In-Service Closure Day 2

Thursday 3 December 2020 – In Service Closure Day 3

Friday 4 December 2020 – St Andrew's Day Holiday

Wednesday 23 December 2020 – Term ends

45 Pupil Schools Days

Christmas Holiday: Thursday 24 December 2020 to Tuesday 5 January 2021

Spring Term

Wednesday 6 January 2021 – Term starts

Thursday 11 February 2021 – In-Service Closure Day 4

Friday 12 February 2021 to Monday 15 February 2021 –Mid-Term Holidays

Friday 2 April 2021 – Term ends

60 Pupil School Days

Spring Holiday: Saturday 3 April 2021 to Sunday 18 April 2021
(includes Easter Monday – 5 April 2021)

Summer Term

Monday 19 April 2021 – Term starts

Monday 3 May 2021 – May Holiday

Thursday 6 May 2021 – In- Service Closure Day 5 (Scottish Parliament Election)

Thursday 24 June 2021 – Term ends

47 Pupil School Days

Total: 190 Pupil School Days

Summer Holiday: Friday 25 June 2021 to Monday 9 August 2021

Appendix 3

ANGUS COUNCIL CHILDREN AND LEARNING DIRECTORATE

School Terms and Holidays 2021/2022

Autumn Term

Tuesday 10 August 2021 – Staff Only (In-Service Closure Day 1)

Wednesday 11 August 2021 – Term starts

Full time commencement of P1 pupils 23 August 2021

Friday 1 October 2021 – Term ends

38 Pupil School Days

Autumn Holiday: Saturday 2 October 2021 to Sunday 17 October 2021

Winter Term

Monday 18 October 2021 – Term starts

Wednesday 1 December 2021 – In-Service Closure Day 2

Thursday 2 December 2021 – In Service Closure Day 3

Friday 3 December 2021 – St Andrew's Day Holiday

Wednesday 22 December 2021 – Term ends

45 Pupil Schools Days

Christmas Holiday: Thursday 23 December 2021 to Sunday 9 January 2022

Spring Term

Monday 10 January 2022 – Term starts

Thursday 10 February 2022 – In-Service Closure Day 4

Friday 11 February 2022 to Monday 14 February 2022 –Mid-Term Holidays

Friday 1 April 2022 – Term ends

57 Pupil School Days

Spring Holiday: Saturday 2 April 2022 to Monday 18 April 2022
(includes Easter Monday – 18 April 2022)

Summer Term

Tuesday 19 April 2022 – Term starts

Monday 2 May 2022 – May Holiday

Monday 30 May 2022* – In- Service Closure Day 5

Wednesday 29 June 2022 – Term ends

50 Pupil School Days

Total: 190 Pupil School Days

Summer Holiday: Thursday 30 June 2022 to Sunday 14 August 2022

*May be reviewed to align with any election