

REPORT TO: Education Committee

MEETING DATE: 22 September 2015

BY: Depute Chief Executive (Resources and People Services)

SUBJECT: School Session Dates (2016/17 and 2017/18)

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to obtain the Committee's approval for School Session dates for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
- (i) Approve the school session dates for 2016/2017 and 2017/18 as outlined in Appendix 1 and 2.
 - (ii) Authorise me to notify Head Teachers, Teachers' Associations, Heads of Establishments and Parent Councils.
 - (iii) Authorise me to notify the Scottish Government Education Department.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 This year, in consultation with neighbouring authorities, we have prepared session dates for the next two academic years instead of one. This will hopefully prove to be helpful to those affected by the session dates in terms of their longer term planning.
- 3.2 In preparing the school session dates for 2016/17 and 2017/18 the following points were taken into consideration: -
- 190 pupil and 195 staff days which is in accordance with the Schools General (Scotland) Regulations 1975 (as amended);
 - A fixed one week break in the third week of October;
 - The school session ending before the first full week of July
 - 5 fixed in-service days; and
 - Flexibility with the Easter break to allow for a natural end to Term 2.

SESSION - 2016/2017 and 2017/18

- 3.3 In preparing the School Session Dates for 2016/17 and 2017/18 the five points in 3.1 were taken into account as outlined in the attached draft proposed dates (Appendix 1 and 2).

Discussion took place with City of Edinburgh Council and Midlothian Council in an attempt to align the dates as far as possible across the three Local Authority areas.

- 3.3.1 As a result of collaborative working the main school holidays i.e. Summer/October/Christmas/February/Easter align with City of Edinburgh Council for 2016/17 with the exception of the following four In-service days and one single holiday date; 9 January 2017, 20 February 2017, 4 May 2017 and 22 May 2017 (In-service days) and 16 September 2016 (holiday).
- 3.3.2 Similarly, in 2017/18 there are two In-service days and two single holiday dates that do not align, namely; 9 January 2017 and 19 February 2018 (In-service days) and 15 September 2017 and 16 April 2018 (holidays).
- 3.3.3 In relation to Midlothian Council, our main school holidays i.e. October/Christmas/Easter align for session 2016/17. However, Midlothian has opted for a shorter February break and a later return from the summer break (staff returning on Thursday 18 August 2016 and pupils on Monday 22 August 2016).
- 3.7 Midlothian Council has decided not to set school session dates for 2017/18 at the present time.
- 3.8 Consultation took place with Head Teachers, Teachers' Associations, UNISON, Educational Establishments, Parent Councils and the wider community through the Council's Consultation Hub. The period of consultation ran from 5 June 2015 until 3 July 2015.
- 3.9 The Department received a total of 31 responses to the Consultation. 30 responses were from individuals and 1 response was from staff within a school.
- 3.10 The consultation asked the question "*Are you happy that East Lothian's school session dates align with City of Edinburgh Council and Midlothian Council session dates?*" Of the 31 responses 25 were happy that East Lothian's session dates align with City of Edinburgh Council and Midlothian Council.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 This report is not applicable to the well being of equalities groups and an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Financial - None
6.2 Personnel - None
6.3 Other - None

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Appendices 1 and 2 – draft school session dates 2016/17 and 2017/18.

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DATE	24 August 2015

School Dates 2016/2017 - Appendix 1

Teaching Day	
In Service Day	
School Holiday	

August 2016						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2016						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2016						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2016						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2016						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2017						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2017						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 2017						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2017						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 2017						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June 2017						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July/August 2017						
Su	M	T	W	T	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

190 Pupil days
195 Staff days

11

20

15

22

16

17

14

23

9

21

22

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