

REPORT TO: Education Committee

MEETING DATE: 23 November 2021

BY: Executive Director for Education and Children's Services

SUBJECT: School Session Dates - 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Education Committee's approval for School Session dates for the three school years, 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
- i. Approve the school session dates for the three years 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 as outlined in Appendix 1.
 - ii. Authorise the Head of Education to notify Scottish Government, Head Teachers, Teachers' Associations, Heads of Establishments and Parent Councils and approve delegated authority to the Head of Education, in consultation with the Council Leader and Convener of the Education Committee, to make any further changes if required to the session dates during the year.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 This year, following discussion with neighbouring authorities (City of Edinburgh Council, Midlothian Council, Scottish Borders Council and Fife Council), East Lothian has prepared school session dates for the following three school years: 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25. Engagement with neighbouring authorities to try and align our dates wherever possible proved challenging and by the time subsequent discussions took place, City of Edinburgh Council had already set dates for the next three academic sessions and had them approved;

Scottish Borders Council have set dates for the next two school years, namely 2022/23 and 2023/24 and Fife Council have also now set theirs for the next three years to 2024/25. Midlothian Council have still to set their dates. It was therefore decided that East Lothian would align our dates with City of Edinburgh Council dates for the next three years which has been the preference of the vast majority of respondents to our consultations in recent years.

3.2 In preparing the draft school session dates for 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 the following points were taken into consideration:

- 190 pupil and 195 staff days which is a legal requirement 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.

3.3 In preparing the draft school session dates for 2022/23 to 2024/25 the five points in 3.2 were taken into account as outlined in the attached draft proposed dates (Appendix 1). Cognisance of the City of Edinburgh Council's session dates were taken into account in an attempt to align the dates, as far as possible. This has been achieved in relation to the main holiday periods.

3.4 The Education Service consultation on the proposed East Lothian session dates for 2022/23 to 2024/25 took place with Head Teachers, Teachers' Professional Associations, UNISON, Educational Establishments, Parent Councils and the wider community through the Council's Consultation Hub. The period of the consultation ran from 27 September 2021 until 18 October 2021.

3.5 The Education Service consultation asked for comments only in relation to the proposed East Lothian dates. A total of 55 responses to the consultation were received, all of which were from individuals. Of the 55 responses received, 33 commented that they were supportive of the proposed dates as they stood; 5 requested that the dates be aligned to other neighbouring authorities; 13 related to the timing and duration of the Christmas break. Other comments related to the timing and duration of the February, summer and October breaks and public holidays. Overall from the responses received, there was a significant majority who were supportive of the proposed dates and with them aligning with City of Edinburgh Council.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

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

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Appendix 1 - draft school session dates 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25.

AUTHOR'S NAME	Richard Parker
DESIGNATION	Education Service Manager
CONTACT INFO	Tel:- 01620 827494 Email:- rparker@eastlothian.gov.uk
DATE	19 October 2021

**EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL
RESOURCES AND PEOPLE SERVICES
SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2022-2023 - DRAFT**

TERM 1	Staff In-service Day 1	Monday	15	August	2022
	Staff In-service Day 2	Tuesday	16	August	2022
	Pupils Resume	Wednesday	17	August	2022
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Friday	16	September	2022
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Monday	19	September	2022
	All Return	Tuesday	20	September	2022
	All Break	Friday	14	October	2022
	Staff In-service Day 3	Monday	24	October	2022
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	25	October	2022
	Term Ends	Tuesday	20	December	2022
	<i>Term 1 = 82 pupil days Term 1 = 85 staff days</i>				
TERM 2	All Resume	Wednesday	4	January	2023
	All Break	Friday	10	February	2023
	Staff In-service Day 4	Monday	20	February	2023
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	21	February	2023
	All Break	Friday	31	March	2023
	Good Friday - 7 April 2023 Easter Monday – 10 April 2023 <i>Term 2 = 57 pupil days Term 2 = 58 staff days</i>				
TERM 3	All Resume (Staff and Pupils)	Monday	17	April	2023
	May Day (Schools closed)	Monday	1	May	2023
	All Resume	Tuesday	2	May	2023
	Staff In-Service Day 5 (pupil holiday)	Monday	22	May	2023
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	23	May	2023
	Term Ends <i>Terms 3 = 51 pupil days Terms 3 = 52 staff days</i>	Wednesday	28	June	2023

**EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL
RESOURCES AND PEOPLE SERVICES
SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2023-2024 - DRAFT**

TERM 1	Staff In-service Day 1	Monday	14	August	2023
	Staff In-service Day 2	Tuesday	15	August	2023
	Pupils Resume	Wednesday	16	August	2023
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Friday	15	September	2023
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Monday	18	September	2023
	All Return	Tuesday	19	September	2023
	All Break	Friday	13	October	2023
	Staff In-service Day 3	Monday	23	October	2023
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	24	October	2023
	Term Ends	Friday	22	December	2023
	<i>Term 1 = 85 pupil days Term 1 = 88 staff days</i>				
TERM 2	All Resume	Monday	8	January	2024
	All Break	Friday	9	February	2024
	Staff In-service Day 4	Monday	19	February	2024
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	20	February	2023
	All Break	Thursday	28	March	2024
	Good Friday – 29 March 2024 Easter Monday – 1 April 2024 <i>Term 2 = 53 pupil days Term 2 = 54 staff days</i>				
TERM 3	All Resume (Staff and Pupils)	Tuesday	16	April	2024
	May Day (Schools closed)	Monday	6	May	2024
	All Resume	Tuesday	7	May	2024
	Staff In-Service Day 5 (pupil holiday)	Monday	20	May	2024
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	21	May	2024
	Term Ends <i>Terms 3 = 52 pupil days Terms 3 = 53 staff days</i>	Friday	28	June	2024

**EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL
RESOURCES AND PEOPLE SERVICES
SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2024-2025 - DRAFT**

TERM 1	Staff In-service Day 1	Monday	12	August	2024
	Staff In-service Day 2	Tuesday	13	August	2024
	Pupils Resume	Wednesday	14	August	2024
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Friday	13	September	2024
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Monday	16	September	2024
	All Return	Tuesday	17	September	2024
	All Break	Friday	11	October	2024
	Staff In-service Day 3	Monday	21	October	2024
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	22	October	2024
	Term Ends	Friday	20	December	2024
	<i>Term 1 = 85 pupil days Term 1 = 88 staff days</i>				
TERM 2	All Resume	Monday	6	January	2025
	All Break	Friday	7	February	2025
	Staff In-service Day 4	Monday	17	February	2025
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	18	February	2025
	All Break	Friday	4	April	2025
	Good Friday – 18 April 2025 Easter Monday – 21 April 2025 <i>Term 2 = 59 pupil days Term 2 = 60 staff days</i>				
TERM 3	All Resume (Staff and Pupils)	Tuesday	22	April	2025
	May Day (Schools closed)	Monday	5	May	2025
	All Resume	Tuesday	6	May	2025
	Staff In-Service Day 5 (pupil holiday)	Monday	19	May	2025
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	20	May	2025
	Term Ends <i>Terms 3 = 46 pupil days Terms 3 = 47 staff days</i>	Thursday	26	June	2025