

**REPORT TO:** Education Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 24 September 2013

**BY:** Depute Chief Executive (Resources and People Services)

**SUBJECT:** School Session Dates (2014/2015)

---

## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to obtain the Committee's approval for School Session dates for 2014/2015.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
- (i) Approve the school session dates for 2014/2015 as outlined in Proposal 1 (Appendix 1).
  - (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 In preparing the school session dates for 2014/2015 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.

### **2014/2015 SESSION**

- 3.3 In preparing the School Session Dates for 2014/2015 the five points in 3.1 were taken into account as outlined in the attached draft proposed dates Proposal 1 and 2 (Appendix 1 and 2).

- 3.4 Discussion took place with City of Edinburgh Council and Midlothian Council in an attempt to align the dates across the three local authority areas but this proved unsuccessful.
- 3.5 Consultation also took place with Head Teachers, Teachers' Associations, UNISON, Educational Establishments, Parent Councils and the wider community through the Council's Consultation Hub.
- 3.6 The Department received a total of **244** responses to the consultation. **147** were in favour of Proposal 1 (Appendix 1) and **97** were in favour of Proposal 2 (Appendix 2).
- 3.7 The majority of those who responded to the consultation exercise were therefore in favour of Proposal 1 (Appendix 1).

#### **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 Proposal 1 and 2 (Appendix 1 and 2) of draft school session dates 2014/15.

<b>AUTHOR'S NAME</b>	Richard Parker
<b>DESIGNATION</b>	Business Manager
<b>CONTACT INFO</b>	Tel:- 01620 827494 Email:- <a href="mailto:rparker@eastlothian.gov.uk">rparker@eastlothian.gov.uk</a>
<b>DATE</b>	10 September 2013

**EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL  
DEPARTMENT OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE  
DRAFT SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2014/15  
Proposal 1**

<b>TERM 1</b>	Staff In-service Day 1	Monday	18	August	2014
	Staff In-service Day 2	Tuesday	19	August	2014
	Pupils Resume	Wednesday	20	August	2014
	Autumn Holiday (Schools closed)	Friday	12	September	2014
	Schools closed	Monday	15	September	2014
	All Return	Tuesday	16	September	2014
	All Break	Friday	10	October	2014
	Staff In service Day 3	Monday	20	October	2014
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	21	October	2014
	Term Ends	Friday	19	December	2014
<b>TERM 2</b>	All Resume	Tuesday	6	January	2015
	All Break	Friday	13	February	2015
	All Resume	Monday	23	February	2015
	Pupils Break	Wednesday	1	April	2015
	Staff In service Day 4	Thursday*	2	April	2015
<b>TERM 3</b>	All Resume (Staff and Pupils)	Monday	20	April	2015
	May Day (Schools closed)	Monday	4	May	2015
	All Resume	Tuesday	5	May	2015
	Staff In-service Day 5	Monday	18	May	2015
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	19	May	2015
	Term Ends	Friday	3	July	2015
<b>Provisional 2015/16</b>					
	Staff Resume	Monday	17	August	2015

Proposal 2.

## School Session Dates 2014/15

Staff resume		Monday	11 August *	2014
Staff only		Tuesday	12 August *	2014
Pupils return		Wednesday	13 August	2014
Autumn Holiday	Schools closed	Monday	15 September	2014
All resume		Tuesday	16 September	2014
Mid-term	All break	Friday	10 October	2014
	Staff resume	Monday	20 October*	2014
	Pupils resume	Tuesday	21 October	2014
Term ends		Friday	19 December	2014

Staff resume		Monday	5 January*	2015
Pupils resume		Tuesday	6 January	2015
Mid-term	All break	Friday	13 February	2015
	All resume	Monday	23 February	2015
Term ends		Thursday	2 April	2015

*The Easter break incorporates the following three holidays*

Good Friday	Schools closed	Friday	3 April	2015
Easter Monday	Schools closed	Monday	6 April	2015
Spring Holiday	Schools Closed	Monday	20 April	2015
All Resume		Tuesday	21 April	2015
May Day	Schools closed	Monday	4 May	2015
All resume		Tuesday	5 May	2015
In Service Day	Closed for Pupils	Thursday	7 May*	2015
Victoria Day	Schools closed	Monday	18 May	2015
All resume		Tuesday	19 May	2015
Term ends		Friday	26 June	2015

\* Five In-Service days for all schools.

The above timetable allows for staff and pupil attendance as follows;

	Pupils	Staff
Term 1	86	89
Term 2	58	59
Term 3	46	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>195</b>

P7/S1 Transition Days – Tuesday 16 June, Wednesday 17 June and Thursday 18 June 2015.  
 Certain schools will be closed on Thursday 18 September for the Scottish Independence Referendum.  
 In-Service Day Thursday 7 May 2015 coincides with date for General Election.

The start date for session 2015/2016 for pupils has been provisionally identified as Wednesday 19 August 2015.