

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 30 JANUARY 2007

PROPOSED SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2008/2009

Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to consult with educational establishments, school boards, the Chambers of Commerce, Churches and the teachers' unions on the proposals outlined in this paper.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 The proposals in the appendices to this paper reflect the patterns which have been accepted in previous years and are likely to meet with greatest acceptance from parents, teachers and other interested parties. The spring break is fixed as the first full 2 weeks in April as per the agreement of the Education Committee on 25 May 2004.
- 2.2 The five in-service training days have been included. It is proposed to continue with two of these days being in February.
- 2.3 The five local holidays have been included. These are consistent, as far as possible, with local holidays in neighbouring authorities.
- 2.4 In addition, the Scottish Ministers have requested that councils try to achieve some consistency in school holiday arrangements across local authorities and as a result East Ayrshire has been in consultation with authorities elsewhere in the West of Scotland.
- 2.5 The dates proposed in each appendix vary as follows:

Christmas

Appendix I proposes that schools close on Friday 19 December 2008 and re-open on Monday 5 January 2009.

Appendix II proposes that schools close on Friday 19 December 2008 and re-open on Tuesday 6 January 2009.

February Mid Term

Appendix I proposes that schools close on 6 February 2009 and re-open on Thursday 12 February 2009. If this option is the preferred option, pupils will have a week's holiday, i.e. 3 days holiday and 2 days of teachers' in-service training.

Appendix II proposes schools close on Thursday 12 February 2009 and re-open on Tuesday 17 February 2009.

Easter

Schools close Friday 3 April 2009 and re-open Monday 20 April 2009 an in-service day.

Final Day of Term:

Both Appendices propose that schools close on Friday 26 June 2009.

Start of New Session

Both Appendices propose teachers return to duty on Friday 14 August 2009.

- 2.6** A comparison of the school holidays agreed for North Ayrshire Council and proposals for South Ayrshire Council are attached as Appendix iii.
- 2.7** Within the holiday arrangements for the Council it is proposed to consult on moving an existing public holiday to St Andrew's Day (30 November or the following Monday should 30 November fall on a weekend). This issue is being considered by Policy and Resources Committee. If the Policy and Resources Committee approval a consultation process on this issue, then this will be included in the consultation on school holiday arrangements.

3. FINANCIAL/LEGAL/POLICY/COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1** Nil

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1** It is recommended that Members of the Education Committee:
- (i) agree that this document is issued for consultation
 - (ii) request that the Director of Educational and Social Services produce a further report outlining the results of the consultation process; and
 - (iii) otherwise note the contents of this report

Graham Short
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

JMcC/JS/JH
12 January 2007

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

Members wishing further information should contact John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support (01563) 555642 or Janice Shaw, Personnel Manager (Schools), (01563) 578114.

Implementation Officer: John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support

APPENDIX I

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL & SOCIAL SERVICES

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS : 2008/2009

TERM	BREAK	DATES	HOLIDAY TOTAL	LOCAL HOLIDAY	WORKING DAYS (TEACHER)	IN SERVICE DAYS
		In-Service Day/ Teachers return	Wed	13 Aug 2008		1
		Pupils return	Thur	14 Aug 2008		
	Local ** Holiday	Close	Thur	18 Sep 2008		
			Frid	19 Sep 2008		
			Mon	22 Sep 2008	2	
		Re-open	Tues	23 Sep 2008		
First	Mid-Term	Close	Frid	10 Oct 2008		
		Re-open/ In-Service Day	Mon	20 Oct 2008	5	1
		Close	Frid	19 Dec 2008		86
		Re-open	Mon	05 Jan 2009	15	
Second	Mid-Term Local	Close	Frid	06 Feb 2009		
		Holiday	Mon	09 Feb 2009	16	1
		Holiday	Tues	10 Feb 2009	17	
		Holiday	Wed	11 Feb 2009		
		Re-open/ In-Service Day	Thur	12 Feb 2009		1
		In-Service Day	Frid	13 Feb 2009		1
	Easter	Close	Frid	03 Apr 2009		148
Third	May Day	Re-open/ In-Service Day	Mon	20 Apr 2009	27	1
			Mon	04 May 2009	28	
	Local Holiday	Close	Thur	21 May 2009		
			Frid	22 May 2009		
			Mon	25 May 2009	2	
		Re-open	Tues	26 May 2009		
		Close	Frid	26 June 2009		195
		Teachers return	Frid	14 Aug 2009	62	5
					5	195*
					5	5

NB: Good Friday: 10 April 2009

* Pupil Attendance will be 190 days after deducting 5 In-Service days.

** Ayr Gold Cup Weekend (**provisional**)

APPENDIX II

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL & SOCIAL SERVICES
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SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS : 2008/2009

TERM	BREAK	DATES	HOLIDAY TOTAL	LOCAL HOLIDAY	WORKING DAYS (TEACHER)	IN SERVICE DAYS
		In-Service Day/ Teachers return				1
		Pupils return				
		Close				
	Local ** Holiday	Thur 18 Sep 2008				
		Frid 19 Sep 2008				
		Mon 22 Sep 2008		2		
		Re-open				
		Tues 23 Sep 2008				
First	Mid-Term	Close				
		Frid 10 Oct 2008				
		Re-open/ In-Service Day				
		Mon 20 Oct 2008	5			1
		Close				
		Frid 19 Dec 2008			86	
		Re-open				
		Tues 06 Jan 2009	16			
Second	Mid-Term	Close				
		Thur 12 Feb 2009				
	Local	Holiday				
		Frid 13 Feb 2009	17	1		
		Mon 16 Feb 2009				
		Re-open/ In-Service Day				
		Tues 17 Feb 2009				1
		In-Service Day				1
		Wed 18 Feb 2009				
	Easter	Close				
		Frid 03 Apr 2009			148	
		Re-open/ In-Service Day				
		Mon 20 Apr 2009	27			1
Third	May Day	Close				
		Mon 04 May 2009	28			
		Thur 21 May 2009				
	Local	Holiday				
		Frid 22 May 2009				
		Mon 25 May 2009		2		
		Re-open				
		Tues 26 May 2009				
		Close				
		Frid 26 June 2009			195	
		Teachers return				
		Frid 14 Aug 2009	62	5	195*	5

NB: Good Friday: 10 April 2009
 * Pupils attendance will be 190 days after deducting 5 In-Service days
 ** Ayr Gold Cup Weekend (**provisional**)

APPENDIX III**MAIN SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2008/2009
FOR NEIGHBOURING COUNCILS**

	Schools Open August 2008	October Week 2008	Christmas Holidays 2008	Easter Holidays 2009	Schools Close June 2009
<i>South Ayrshire Council (Proposed)</i>	14 August (Teachers) 18 August (Pupils)	13 – 17 October	24 December – 6 January	6 – 17 April	14 August (Teachers) 18 August (Pupils)
<i>North Ayrshire Council (Agreed in principle)</i>	13 August (Teachers) 14 August (Pupils)	13 – 17 October	22 December – 2 January	6 – 17 April	14 August (Teachers) 17 August (Pupils)

***All dates inclusive**