

School Session Dates for the Academic Year 2021/22**Report by Executive Director Children, Young People & Partnerships****Report for Decision****1 Recommendations**

Cabinet is requested to

- i. Following agreement by Council on 11 May 2021 to grant the Local Government Workforce an additional public holiday on Friday 3 June 2022 to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, Cabinet is asked to grant the same public holiday to those on SNCT terms and conditions

2 Purpose of Report/Executive Summary

The authority is required to set school session dates each year with regard to statutory attendance.

A scheme of session dates for Midlothian schools for the academic year 2021/22 was drawn up and approved by Council 16 June 2020.

The report notes the UK Government's announcement of an additional holiday to mark Her Majesty The Queen's 70th anniversary as monarch in summer 2022 and thus seeks approval of an additional Public Holiday on Friday 3 June 2022 for schools.

MNCT has agreed the session dates for 2021/22 which are attached to this report as Appendix B.

Date: 6th October 2021

Report Contact:

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3 Background

The school session dates 2021/22 presented to and approved by Council 16 June 2020 were determined in collaboration with our neighbouring council areas and consultation with key stakeholders.

The UK Government announced that an additional holiday is provided on Friday 3 June 2022 to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Midlothian Council May 2021 considered and unanimously agreed to grant an additional day as a public holiday for the local government workforce group to match the planned change by the UK Government which will introduce an additional public holiday on Friday 3rd June 2022. In respect of staff on teaching terms and conditions the arrangements were to be covered by the determination of school term dates.

The Schools General (Scotland) Regulations 1975 place a duty on education authorities to provide 190 days of schooling in all of the schools in Midlothian Council. The provision of an additional public holiday to mark Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee will result in the education authority providing 189 days of schooling. The education authority wrote to Scottish Ministers requesting an exemption to provide 190 days of schooling to enable staff, pupils and families to participate in Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations on Friday 3rd June 2022. Under the powers available under section 133(4) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, Scottish Ministers are content to allow the exceptional school closure of all schools in Midlothian on Friday 3 June 2022.

Cabinet is asked to approve the closure of all schools on Friday 3rd June 2022 and this amendment to the school session dates 2021/22.

On 30 September 2021 MNCT members agreed the session dates for 2021/22.

4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)

4.1 Resource

None

4.2 Digital

None

4.3 Risk

None

4.4 Ensuring Equalities (if required a separate IIA must be completed)

This report does not recommend any change to policy or practice and therefore does not require an Equalities Impact Assessment.

4.4 Additional Report Implications

None

Appendices

Appendix A – Additional Report Implications

Appendix B – School Session Dates 2021/22

APPENDIX A – Report Implications

A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Not applicable

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- Holistic Working
- Hub and Spoke
- Modern
- Sustainable
- Transformational
- Preventative
- Asset-based
- Continuous Improvement
- One size fits one
- None of the above

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- One Council Working with you, for you
- Preventative and Sustainable
- Efficient and Modern
- Innovative and Ambitious
- None of the above

A.4 Delivering Best Value

The report does not directly impact on Delivering Best Value

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

Proposed dates have been shared and feedback sought from establishments and parents and union representatives.

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

Session dates have been designed to maximise attendance by minimising the number of broken weeks for staff and pupils.

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Not applicable

A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

This proposal takes into account the need to deliver an educational service across Midlothian which anticipates and acknowledges the needs and views of stakeholders.

**APPENDIX B
MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL**

CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE & PARTNERSHIPS

School Session Dates 2021/22

TERM 1	Staff Resume	Monday **	16	August	2021
	Pupils Resume	Wednesday	18	August	2021
	Autumn Holiday	Monday	20	September	2021
Mid Term	All Break	Friday	15	October	2021
	Staff Resume	Monday*	25	October	2021
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	26	October	2021
	Term Ends	Wednesday	22	December	2021
TERM 2	Staff Resume	Monday*	10	January	2022
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	11	January	2022
Mid Term	All Break	Friday	11	February	2022
	All Resume	Monday	21	February	2022
	Term Ends	Friday	8	April	2022
	<i>Good Friday</i> <i>Easter Monday</i>	<i>15th April</i> <i>18th April</i>			
TERM 3	All Resume	Monday	25	April	2022
	May Day	Monday	2	May	2022
	Victoria Day	Monday*	23	May	2022
	Jubilee Holiday	Friday	3	June	2022
	Term Ends	Thursday	30	June	2022

***Staff In-Service Days:** Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th August 2021
Monday 25th October 2021
Monday 10th January 2022
Monday 23rd May 2022

Start date for session 2022/23 will be Monday, 15th August 2022