

School Holiday Dates for 2017/2018

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Community Services Committee at its meeting on 8 December 2016 agreed and approved the framework of holiday dates for schools in 2017/2018.
- 1.2 At this meeting Members were asked to agree a framework for the main school holiday periods in Argyll and Bute that will enable Education Services to align the in-service days for teachers and the holiday dates for pupils.
- 1.3 Prior to submitting this update full consultation took place with Parent Councils for school holiday arrangements for 2017/2018. The consultation documents and summary outcomes were presented to Council on the 2nd June 2016.
- 1.4 It is recommended that the Bute and Cowal Area Committee acknowledge the holidays that have been set and agreed by the Community Services Committee.

School Holiday Dates for 2017/2018

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The major school holiday arrangements for Argyll and Bute for session 2017/2018 require to be set by the Council.
- 2.2 Members were asked to agree a framework for the main school holiday periods in Argyll and Bute that will enable Education Services to align the in-service days for teachers and the holiday dates for pupils. Aligning the in-service days for teachers will improve school collaboration, delivery of continuing professional development courses and the sharing of good practice. In addition these arrangements provide enhanced opportunities for staff to come together to work on key improvement activities arising from the new Education Act and National Improvement Framework (NIF).
- 2.3 Prior to submitting paper to Community Services Committee a full consultation took place with Parent Councils for school holiday arrangements for 2017/2018. The consultation documents and summary outcomes of the consultation were presented to Community Services Committee on the 2nd June 2016.
- 2.4 Community Services Committee recommended at their meeting on 2nd June 2016 that further consultation take place with Parent Councils, Head Teachers and teaching staff and further consultation was presented at Community Services Committee on the 8th December 2016.

Community Services Committee noted:

- the outcome of the second round of consultation that had taken place via a web based survey with Parent Councils, Head Teachers and teaching staff;
- that consultation with appropriate Unions on the proposal for school holiday arrangements in Session 2017/2018 had been undertaken at both JSC and LNCT meetings where the updated proposal was noted. The outcome of the further consultation referred to the JSC on the 26th October 2016 was that the proposed school holiday dates were approved. The outcome of the further consultation had been referred to the LNCT on the 30th November 2016 for decision and

- the advantage to the service of being able to deliver focused continuing professional development to teaching and support staff with the increase in common in-service dates.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Community Services Committee at its meeting on 8 December 2016 agreed and approved the framework of holiday dates for schools in 2017/2018.
- 3.2 At this meeting Members were asked to agree a framework for the main school holiday periods in Argyll and Bute that will enable Education Services to align the in-service days for teachers and the holiday dates for pupils.
- 3.3 Prior to submitting this update full consultation took place with Parent Councils for school holiday arrangements for 2017/2018. The consultation documents and summary outcomes were presented to Council on the 2nd June 2016.
- 3.4 It is recommended that the Bute and Cowal Area Committee acknowledge the holidays that have been set and agreed by the Community Services Committee.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 There is no requirement under Schedule 1 of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, 2000 to consult on and give notice in respect of school holidays.
- 4.2 However, prior to submitting a report to Community Services Committee two consultations took place; the first with Parent Councils and the second with Parent Councils, Head Teachers and Teaching staff to ensure that all stakeholders gave consideration to the updated proposal.
- 4.3 The updated proposal took cognisance of as many of the respondent views as possible and ensured that:
 - a two week break in October was included;
 - a one week break in February was included;
 - the number of incomplete school weeks for pupils were minimised and

- the in-service days were aligned.

4.4 The outcome of the second round of consultation was reported to Community Services Committee on 8 December 2016 where the school holiday dates for 2017/2018 were agreed and approved.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 Community Services Committee at the meeting on 8th December 2016 agreed and approved School Holiday Dates for 2017/2018.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

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| 6.1 | Policy: | None. |
| 6.2 | Financial: | None. |
| 6.3 | Legal : | None. |
| 6.4 | HR: | None. |
| 6.5 | Equalities: | None. |
| 6.6 | Risk: | There is a risk to the reputation of the Council if we cannot provide School holiday arrangements for 2017/2018. |
| 6.7 | Customer Service: | School holiday arrangements for 2017/2018 will be made available to the public via the Council Website. |

Ann Marie Knowles
Acting Executive Director of Community Services

Councillor Rory Colville
Policy Lead for Education and Lifelong Learning
18th October 2016

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Cowal and Bute School Holiday Dates for 2017/2018

Argyll and Bute Council
Community Services: Education
School Holiday Arrangements
2017/2018

Bute

Rothesay Joint Campus
 North Bute Primary
 St Andrew's Primary

TERM	BREAK	DATES OF ATTENDANCE		PUPIL DAYS	WORKING DAYS
First			14 & 15 August 2017 Teachers' In-service Days		
		Open	16 August 2017 Pupils Return		
	October	Close	6 October 2017	38 (38)	40 (40)
		Open	23 October 2017		
		Close	24 November 2017	25 (63)	
			27 November 2017 Teachers In-service Day		
		Open	28 November 2017		
	Christmas	Close	22 December 2017	19 (82)	45 (85)
Second		Open	8 January 2018		
		Close	9 February 2018	25 (107)	25 (110)
			15 & 16 February 2018 Teachers' In-service Days		
		Open	19 February 2018		
	Spring	Close	29 March 2018	29 (136)	31 (141)
Third		Open	16 April 2018		
		Close	4 May 2018	15 (151)	15 (156)
	May	Open	8 May 2018		
		Close	29 June 2018	39 (190)	39 (195)

**Argyll and Bute Council
Community Services: Education
School Holiday Arrangements
2017/2018**

Cowal

Dunoon Grammar
Strachur Primary
Kilmodan Primary
Tighnabruaich Primary

Sandbank Primary
Innellan Primary
St Mun's Primary
Lochgoilhead Primary

Dunoon Primary
Strone Primary
Kirn Primary
Toward Primary

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		Open	19 February 2018		
	Spring	Close	29 March 2018	29 (136)	31 (141)
Third		Open	16 April 2018		
	May	Close	25 May 2018	30 (166)	30 (171)
		Open	29 May 2018		
		Close	29 June 2018	24 (190)	24 (195)