

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Parent Council Chairs

Date 9 November 2009

Our Ref S&CS/PIU/GD

Dear Chair

SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2011/12 AND ST ANDREW'S DAY

As part of the Department's commitment to annual consultation on School Session Dates, I attach a copy of the proposed dates for Session 2011/12. I hope you will take this opportunity to consult with your Parent Forum and let me know the outcomes of your discussion.

The attached draft dates were presented to the Consultative Committee with Parents on Tuesday 3 November for comment.

The school session must comprise a statutory minimum of 190 days for pupil attendance. Teaching staff are employed for a total of 195 days per session.

In addition, Edinburgh recognises, **wherever possible**, the following criteria when setting session dates:

- Session to end before the beginning of the Trades Holiday, normally the first Saturday in July.
- Two In-Service days for staff at the beginning of the session
- Provision for local holidays
- A one week break during the third week in October (ie the week preceding the last Thursday in October)
- 2 full weeks' holiday at Christmas
- Date of SQA examinations
- First two full weeks in April for Spring Break

MIKE ROSENDALE
HEAD OF SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

City of Edinburgh Council HQ, Waverley Court, Level 1,
(Business Centre 1/1), 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG



In previous consultations, teaching unions and many schools noted that a break of one week in February was preferred to a shorter break in order to benefit children at a time when pupils and staff can be more prone to illness.

Representatives from the four ex-Lothian Authorities met to discuss harmonisation of Session Dates for 2011/12. It was agreed that harmonisation on the main dates could take place but total harmonisation was impossible because of local holidays and differences in In-Service days.

St Andrew's Day

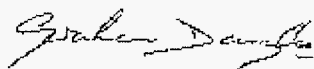
Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, asked Authorities to consider the possibility of St Andrew's Day (30 November) being a school holiday. It was agreed that this would be included in the Session Dates Consultation for 2011/12 and subsequent years.

Draft Session Dates are given in Appendix I (excluding St Andrew's Day) and Appendix II (including St Andrew's Day).

In order to accommodate St Andrew's Day and to ensure pupil attendance of 190 days, it is proposed that pupils will attend on Friday 23 December.

You are asked to consider the draft dates and St Andrew's day and return any comments to Graham.Douglas@edinburgh.gov.uk by **22 January 2010**, by completing Appendix III.

Yours faithfully



Graham Douglas
Administrative Officer
Devolved Resources and Support

Graham.Douglas@edinburgh.gov.uk

EDINBURGH

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

School Session Dates 2011/12

Staff resume		Monday	15 August *	2011
Staff only		Tuesday	16 August *	2011
Pupils resume		Wednesday	17 August	2011
Autumn Holiday	Schools closed	Monday	19 September	2011
All resume		Tuesday	20 September	2011
Mid-term	All break	Friday	14 October	2011
	Staff resume	Monday	24 October*	2011
	Pupils resume	Tuesday	25 October	2011
Term ends		Thursday	22 December	2011

Staff resume		Monday	9 January*	2012
Pupils resume		Tuesday	10 January	2012
Mid-term	All break	Friday	10 February	2012
	All resume	Monday	20 February	2012
Term ends		Friday	30 March	2012

Good Friday	Schools closed	Friday	6 April	2012
Easter Monday	Schools closed	Monday	9 April	2012
Spring Holiday	Schools closed	Monday	16 April	2012

All Resume		Tuesday	17 April	2012
May Day	Schools closed	Monday	7 May	2012
All resume		Tuesday	8 May	2012
Victoria Day	Schools closed	Monday	21 May	2012
Staff resume		Tuesday	22 May*	2012
Pupils resume		Wednesday	23 May	2012
Term ends		Friday	29 June	2012

5 In-Service days for all schools

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

	Pupils	Staff
Term 1	85	88
Term 2	54	55
Term 3	51	52
Total	190	195

The start date for session 2012/2013 for pupils has been provisionally identified as Wednesday 15 August 2012.

APPENDIX II

EDINBURGH

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

School Session Dates 2011/12

Staff resume		Monday	15 August *	2011
Staff only		Tuesday	16 August *	2011
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Mid-term	All break	Friday	14 October	2011
	Staff resume	Monday	24 October*	2011
	Pupils resume	Tuesday	25 October	2011
St Andrew's Day		Wednesday	30 November	2011
Term ends		Friday	23 December	2011

Staff resume		Monday	9 January*	2012
Pupils resume		Tuesday	10 January	2012
Mid-term	All break	Friday	10 February	2012
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APPENDIX III

CONSULTATION ON SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2011/12 AND ST ANDREW'S DAY

NAME:

SCHOOL:

	Please tick		Please tick
Parent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other School staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
Head Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/>		

St Andrew's Day

Please tick

In favour of St Andrew's Day being a school holiday

Against St Andrew's Day being a school holiday

Session Dates

Please tick

In favour of Appendix I

In favour of Appendix II

Comments:

Please e-mail this return to Graham.Douglas@edinburgh.gov.uk.