
SCHOOL TERM DATES 2011/12 AND 2012/13

**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Cyndi Hughes
Children and Young people Portfolio**

Responsible Director – Murray Rose, Director of Children’s Services

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider and set school term dates and associated professional development arrangements for the academic years 2011/12 and 2012/13.

Summary

2. In line with previous practice, all North East authorities met with a view to coordinate school term dates. This year it was again thought possible to coordinate term dates with authorities in the Yorkshire region using the previously agreed Guiding Principles (a copy of these are attached as **Appendix A**). Proposals to set term dates for the next two years are presented for Cabinet’s approval. This will assist schools, parents and the authority in planning processes.
3. The attached calendars at **Appendices B and C** show 194 term days (2011/12) and 195 term days (2012/13). 194 term days have been set for 2011/12 to take account of the additional Bank Holiday which has been agreed to celebrate the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. This allows schools to set up to 5 professional development days for teaching staff when pupils will not attend. As in previous years in Darlington, schools will each determine when these will take place and inform the authority.

Recommendation

4. It is recommended that Members consider and agree the school term dates for the 2011/12 and 2012/13 academic years.

Reasons

5. The recommendation is supported to assist schools, parents and the Council in planning process.

**Murray Rose
Director of Children’s Services**

Background Papers

No Background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

George McQueen : Extension 2847

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no issues arising directly from this report that relate directly to crime and disorder.
Health and Well Being	There are no issues arising directly from this report that relate directly to health and well being.
Sustainability	There are no sustainability issues.
Diversity	The content of this report impacts equally across all groups.
Wards Affected	All wards equally affected.
Groups Affected	Parents, pupils, schools, neighbouring authorities equally affected.
Budget and Policy Framework	There is no change to the Budget and Policy framework as a result of this report.
Key Decision	This is a key decision as it affects all wards in Darlington.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	This report links to Aspiring Darlington as it recommends school term dates and the number of school days on which students have to attend.
Efficiency	This report enables all affected to make long term plans.

MAIN REPORT

Outcome of Consultation

6. Consultation has been undertaken with trade unions, schools and neighbouring authorities. Schools have expressed their support and gratitude for facilitating the arrangements to coincide with our neighbours, and in particular Durham and North Yorkshire, who have both confirmed similar pattern of dates. Trade unions are content with the proposed dates.