

Report of Governance and Partnership Officer

Report to The Deputy Director, Learning Skills & Universal Services

Date: 27 August 2014

Subject: Revised Leeds School Calendar 2015-16



Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The purpose of this report is to outline an amendment made to the Leeds school calendar, and recommend revised dates to be adopted in 2015-16.

Recommendations

2. The Deputy Director (Learning Skills and Universal Services) is recommended to approve the revised 2015-16 school calendar, as detailed in appendix 1.

1 Purpose of this report

2 The purpose of this report is to outline an amendment made to the Leeds school calendar, and recommend revised dates to be adopted for 2015-16.

3 Background information

3.1 Following consultation with various groups the Leeds school calendar dates for 2015-16 were approved and published in July 2014. The original school calendar report was published on 25 June 2014 and the decision taken on 03 July 2014.

4 Main issues

4.1 Following approval and publication it came to light that there was an error in the dates. Week commencing 22 February appeared twice which meant the total number of days only added up to 190, rather than the required 195.

4.2 In order to rectify this, five days have been added on to the end of the summer term so the school year will end on Wednesday 27 July 2016.

4.3 The alternative option of starting the school year earlier in September 2015 has been discounted as this would mean schools returning during the August bank holiday week 2015 which consultation with all groups showed was unpopular.

5 Corporate Considerations

5.1 Consultation and Engagement

5.1.1 The original calendar options for 2015-16 had been shared with the Primary Headteacher Forum, Leeds Secondary Heads and Principals, a strategic governor group, the Teachers Joint Consultative Committee and Lead members for Children's Services, but unfortunately the error went unnoticed.

5.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

5.2.2 An Equality Impact screening was originally undertaken and identified that a full assessment was not required.

5.3 Council policies and City Priorities

5.3.3 It is a statutory requirement that the local authority produces and publishes the annual school calendar at least four school terms in advance of the commencement of the calendar.

5.4 Resources and value for money

There are no immediate implications.

5.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

There are no immediate implications. This report has been made exempt from call-in so as to avoid any further delays in publicising the revised calendar.

5.6 Risk Management

Although we did meet the statutory timeframe for publicising the calendar, as we are now republishing, the timeframe will not be met. We do not wish to delay the implementation of this decision any longer than necessary and have therefore made this decision not subject to call in.

6 Conclusions

6.1 The 2015-16 dates have been revised in order to meet statutory requirements.

7 Recommendations

8 The Deputy Director (Learning Skills and Universal Services) is recommended to approve the revised 2015-16 school calendar, as detailed in appendix 1.

9 Background documents¹

9.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.