



Consultation on school session dates 2011 – 2014

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01835 826592

**Education & Lifelong Learning
Scottish Borders Council**

16 August 2010

Following our last consultation in 2008, school term times and holiday dates were set until June 2011. We are now seeking views from parents, pupils, staff, parent councils, local businesses and anyone else with an interest on options for school session dates for the years 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14.

Background to the proposals

There are statutory requirements for the number of days when a school must be open, and also certain traditions for holiday dates which we have always used in Scottish Borders, and which have been incorporated in all three options. These are:

- Schools are required by law to be open for pupils on **190 days**, with an **additional five days** for in service training for teachers.
- The main summer break incorporates the traditional Trades holidays within the various towns and communities in the Borders.
- A week's holiday is taken in the second full week of October.
- A minimum of two weeks' holiday is taken at Christmas.
- A two week holiday is taken in the first two full weeks of April to provide a Spring break. When Good Friday falls outside this period it is taken as a schools' holiday.
- To enable schools and pupils to participate in our local festivals, schools also have the right to set casual or local holidays, and each option given below allows at least one casual holiday date to be set locally. Schools are asked to work together on a locality basis to set the dates so that school transport and lunches are not disrupted.

Other considerations

- The Scottish Government passed the St Andrew's Day bill in 2006, encouraging employers to make 30 November a holiday to replace another local holiday given to employees. At Scottish Borders Council, this holiday will be taken on the Monday closest to 30 November, and this has been illustrated in the following pages although dates in 2012 and 2013 are still to be confirmed.
- In 2012, the Scottish Government has approved an additional public holiday on Tuesday 5th June for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This has not been illustrated in the following pages.

These two holidays do not remove the requirement for schools to be open for pupils on **190 days**, and if they are to be taken during term time the days must be taken from another holiday time, eg the summer holiday period.

Options

There has been considerable feedback over the past year regarding the changes which were implemented in the school session 2009-10, in particular the introduction of a week's break in February and the resulting reduction in the length of the summer holiday. Whilst this has been popular with some, there have also been many objections to the timing of this break.

The options put forward in this consultation document reflect the views which have been put forward on this matter. Put simply, they are:

Option 1: To retain the current holiday pattern including a week's holiday in February and a shorter summer holiday.

Option 2: To remove the week long holiday in February and have a two week break in October instead.

Option 3: To remove the week long holiday in February and return to a longer summer holiday.

All three options are illustrated in the pages which follow.

Suggestions put forward by some for a May holiday are not practical because of SQA examinations which take place throughout this month.

Submitting Your Views

We would very much welcome your views on which option you believe would be most suitable, and also any comments you may have about arrangements for casual holidays, St Andrew's Day, the 2012 Diamond Jubilee holiday and in-service training days. Please use the form at the back of this document to submit your views by e:mail to:

ellinfo@scotborders.gov.uk

or by post to the address below

All views received will be taken into consideration as part of the decision-making process. A final recommendation will be submitted to the Education Executive meeting in December 2010.

The closing date for responses is Friday 22nd October 2010

**GLENN RODGER
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING**

**Education & Lifelong Learning, Scottish Borders Council
Council HQ, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose TD6 0SA**

Holiday Dates 2011 – 2012

OPTION 1 – 1 week holiday in October, 1 week holiday in February

Key	Yellow Background = In Service Dates
Black Text (Bold) = School Dates	Pink Background = Holiday Dates

August 2011

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		1	2	3	4	5
		8	9	10	11	12
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February 2012

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September 2011

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March 2012

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October 2011

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April 2012

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November 2011

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May 2012

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December 2011

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June 2012

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July 2012

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15 Aug = In Service Day

28 Nov = St Andrew's Day holiday

7 May = May Day Bank Holiday

Still to allocate:

4 x in-service training days

2 x casual holidays

Holiday Dates 2011 – 2012

OPTION 2 – 2 weeks holiday in October

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February 2012

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September 2011

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March 2012

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Still to allocate:

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Holiday Dates 2011 – 2012

OPTION 3 – 1 week holiday in October, no February week

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13 Aug = In Service Day

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29 March = Good Friday

6 May = May Day Bank Holiday

Still to allocate:

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29 March = Good Friday

6 May = May Day Bank Holiday

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1 x casual holiday

Holiday Dates 2012 – 2013

OPTION 3 – 1 week holiday in October, no February week

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June 2013

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January 2013

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July 2013

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13 Aug = In Service Day

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29 March = Good Friday

6 May = May Day Bank Holiday

Still to allocate:

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Holiday Dates 2013 – 2014

OPTION 1 – 1 week holiday in October, 1 week holiday in February

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August 2013

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February 2014

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March 2014

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April 2014

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November 2013

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May 2014

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December 2013

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June 2014

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		9	10	11	12	13
		16	17	18	19	20
		23	24	25	26	27
		30				

January 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
				1	2	3
		6	7	8	9	10
		13	14	15	16	17
		20	21	22	23	24
		27	28	29	30	31

July 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
			1	2	3	4
		7	8	9	10	11
		14	15	16	17	18
		21	22	23	24	25
		28	29	30	31	

19 Aug = In Service Day

2 Dec = St Andrew's Day holiday

5 May = May Day Bank Holiday

Still to allocate:

4 x in-service training days

2 x casual holidays

Holiday Dates 2013 – 2014

OPTION 2 – 2 weeks holiday in October

Key	Yellow Background = In Service Dates
Black Text (Bold) = School Dates	Pink Background = Holiday Dates

August 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
					1	2
		5	6	7	8	9
		12	13	14	15	16
		19	20	21	22	23
		26	27	28	29	30

February 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		3	4	5	6	7
		10	11	12	13	14
		17	18	19	20	21
		24	25	26	27	28

September 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		2	3	4	5	6
		9	10	11	12	13
		16	17	18	19	20
		23	24	25	26	27
		30				

March 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		3	4	5	6	7
		10	11	12	13	14
		17	18	19	20	21
		24	25	26	27	28
		31				

October 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
			1	2	3	4
		7	8	9	10	11
		14	15	16	17	18
		21	22	23	24	25
		28	29	30	31	

April 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
			1	2	3	4
		7	8	9	10	11
		14	15	16	17	18
		21	22	23	24	25
		28	29	30		

November 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
						1
		4	5	6	7	8
		11	12	13	14	15
		18	19	20	21	22
		25	26	27	28	29

May 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
					1	2
		5	6	7	8	9
		12	13	14	15	16
		19	20	21	22	23
		26	27	28	29	30

December 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		2	3	4	5	6
		9	10	11	12	13
		16	17	18	19	20
		23	24	25	26	27
		30	31			

June 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		2	3	4	5	6
		9	10	11	12	13
		16	17	18	19	20
		23	24	25	26	27
		30				

January 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
				1	2	3
		6	7	8	9	10
		13	14	15	16	17
		20	21	22	23	24
		27	28	29	30	31

July 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
			1	2	3	4
		7	8	9	10	11
		14	15	16	17	18
		21	22	23	24	25
		28	29	30	31	

19 Aug = In Service Day

2 Dec = St Andrew's Day holiday

5 May = May Day Bank Holiday

Still to allocate:

4 x in-service training days

2 x casual holidays

Holiday Dates 2013 – 2014

OPTION 3 – 1 week holiday in October, no February week

Key	Yellow Background = In Service Dates
Black Text (Bold) = School Dates	Pink Background = Holiday Dates

August 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
					1	2
		5	6	7	8	9
		12	13	14	15	16
		19	20	21	22	23
		26	27	28	29	30

February 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		3	4	5	6	7
		10	11	12	13	14
		17	18	19	20	21
		24	25	26	27	28

September 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		2	3	4	5	6
		9	10	11	12	13
		16	17	18	19	20
		23	24	25	26	27
		30				

March 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		3	4	5	6	7
		10	11	12	13	14
		17	18	19	20	21
		24	25	26	27	28
		31				

October 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
			1	2	3	4
		7	8	9	10	11
		14	15	16	17	18
		21	22	23	24	25
		28	29	30	31	

April 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
			1	2	3	4
		7	8	9	10	11
		14	15	16	17	18
		21	22	23	24	25
		28	29	30		

November 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
						1
		4	5	6	7	8
		11	12	13	14	15
		18	19	20	21	22
		25	26	27	28	29

May 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
					1	2
		5	6	7	8	9
		12	13	14	15	16
		19	20	21	22	23
		26	27	28	29	30

December 2013

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		2	3	4	5	6
		9	10	11	12	13
		16	17	18	19	20
		23	24	25	26	27
		30	31			

June 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
		2	3	4	5	6
		9	10	11	12	13
		16	17	18	19	20
		23	24	25	26	27
		30				

January 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
				1	2	3
		6	7	8	9	10
		13	14	15	16	17
		20	21	22	23	24
		27	28	29	30	31

July 2014

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
			1	2	3	4
		7	8	9	10	11
		14	15	16	17	18
		21	22	23	24	25
		28	29	30	31	

19 Aug = In Service Day

2 Dec = St Andrew's Day holiday

5 May = May Day Bank Holiday

Still to allocate:

4 x in-service training days

2 x casual holidays

Scottish Borders Council

Consultation on school session dates - 2011 – 2014

RESPONSE FORM

Please indicate which of the three options you would prefer :

- Option 1: Retain the current holiday pattern including a week's holiday in February and a shorter summer holiday.
- Option 2: Remove the week long holiday in February and have a two week break in October instead.
- Option 3: Remove the week long holiday in February and return to a longer summer holiday.

St Andrew's Day – please indicate which of the two options you would prefer :

- Option 1: Have a day's holiday on the Monday closest to 30th November.
- Option 2: Have this holiday added to another block of holidays eg in the summer.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee holiday – 5th June 2012

Do you think that schools should be closed for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 5th June 2012? This would require a day to be taken from another holiday period, and it should be noted that there may be SQA examinations on 5th June 2012.

- Yes No

Do you wish to make any other comments about school session dates?

Please provide your name and contact information if you would like to be sent details of the outcome of this consultation:

Please return this form to: School Holiday Consultation, Education & Lifelong Learning, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose TD6 0SA

Or by email to: ellinfo@scotborders.gov.uk

To be received no later than Friday 22nd October 2010

