

Report to: Children and Young People's Panel Cabinet

Date: 13th September 2007 20th September 2007

Subject: School Working Pattern 2009 - 2010

Report of: Director of Children and Young People's Services

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Purpose / summary: To seek approval for the School Working Pattern for 2009 – 2010.

Alternative options considered and reason for selecting the one recommended: See section 3 of this report.

Recommendation / decision: Members are recommended to approve the School Working Pattern 2009 – 2010.

Key Decision: This report involves a key decision within ground(s) 1.

The decision made as a result of this report will be published within **48 hours** and cannot be actioned until **seven working days** have elapsed, i.e. before 2 October 2007

This item is included in the Forward Plan.

Risks / Implications:

Financial:	None
Staffing:	None
Policy:	None
Equal Opportunities - Has a Diversity Impact Assessment been conducted?	Yes
Wards affected:	All

Property – Does the proposal involve a reduction, addition or change to the Council’s asset base or its occupation?

No

Does this proposal have significant implications for the Council and the local population?

A diversity impact assessment is not necessary at this stage, however, equality and diversity implications have been considered when producing this report.

Does this proposal involve a new policy or procedure or significant changes to an existing policy or procedure?

A diversity impact assessment is not necessary at this stage, however, equality and diversity implications have been considered when producing this report.

Has the Director of Legal and Property Services confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council’s Constitution? **Yes**

Has the Director of Finance and IT confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council’s budget? **Yes**

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council? **No ***

* delete which applicable

For Cabinet reports only :

Categorisation of the report:			
Discussion leading to a decision		Discussion	
Monitoring		Decision	X
Sharing for corporate understanding		Information	

Tracking/Process:

	Consultation	Ward Members	Partners
Panel	Overview & Scrutiny	Cabinet	Council
13.9.07		20.9.07	

There are no Background Papers to this Report within the meaning of Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Proper Officer


Nick Jaman

Date

24th August 2007

Background

1.1 The School Working Pattern Consultation Group was established in September 2002, following the recommendation of the Citizen's Jury. Its membership comprises representatives from recognised Unions, Professional Associations, Headteachers, Governors and Diocesan Authorities. The Group meets at least annually and discusses proposed School Working Patterns.

2. Statutory requirements

2.1 The law requires that pupils are in school for 190 days in each academic year. Teaching staff are contracted for up to 195 days in the academic year.

2.2 For community and voluntary controlled schools the Council has the statutory power to agree the School Working Pattern.

2.3 Voluntary Aided schools are able to agree their own patterns in consultation with the Director of Children and Young People's Services. Since 2000, the voluntary sector has been strongly recommended to comply with the Wigan pattern and many voluntary aided schools have done this.

3. The School Working Pattern for 2009 – 2010

3.1 For previous academic years, the approved school working patterns were based on 190 pupil days with flexibility for governors to opt to have a two week break at either October or at Easter. Schools could ask teachers to attend work for up to 5 non pupil days or equivalent periods of twilight sessions for in service training days (inset).

3.2 Following consultation with schools and recommendations from the School Working Pattern Consultation Group, Members approved a School Working Pattern comprising a fixed 190 pupil days and 3 fixed inset days for the 2008 – 2009 academic year. (Council minutes dated 30 November 2006).

3.3 The proposed School Working Pattern for 2009-2010 recommended by the School Working Pattern Consultation Group is attached at appendix 1. The proposed pattern follows the format from the 2008 – 2009 academic year and is for 190 fixed pupil days and 3 fixed inset days.

3.3 The Director of Children and Young People's Services recommends to schools that planning for inset is done after consultation with staff of the school over priorities and the type of inset needed.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Members are recommended to:

Approve the School Working Pattern for 2009 – 2010 attached at appendix 1.

Appendix 1 – Proposed school working pattern 2009 – 2010

Autumn Term 2009

Tuesday 1 September – fixed inset day

Wednesday 2 September to Friday 18 December – Autumn Term

Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October – Half Term

73 pupil days

Spring Term 2010

Monday 4 January – fixed inset day

Tuesday 5 January to Friday 26 March – Spring Term

Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February – Half Term

54 pupil days

Summer Term 2010

Monday 12 April – fixed inset day

Tuesday 13 April to Friday 16 July – Summer Term

Monday 3 May – bank holiday

Monday 24 May to Friday 28 May – Half Term

63 pupil days

Diversity Impact Assessment form

Section:

Policy/Service Area:

Person Completing Form:
Julie Hough

Date:
14.8.07

Do any of the below groups suffer specific disadvantage (please indicate)

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Race		No	Disability		No
Ethnicity		No	Gender		No
Age		No	Religion	Yes	
Class		No	Sexual Orientation		No

Is there evidence of disadvantage or associated problems?

There is no evidence of disadvantage or associated problems. All schools in Wigan LA are of Christian faith background but a minority of children from other faith backgrounds may attend them. We do not have any schools of other religious character or faith.

How was the information collected and/or who have you consulted with?

In 2000 the Citizen's Jury looked at the complexities of the varied working patterns across Wigan and as a result a full consultation exercise took place with schools, dioceses, parents, governors and unions.

In 2005 a further consultation was carried out with representatives from the School Working Pattern Consultation Group and Schools.

Action Plan – *What specific actions are planned to tackle any disadvantage identified?*

N/A

Is the policy in line with current equality legislation and relevant codes of practice?

Timescale	
Responsibility	
Comments	

Are the actions specified included in any other documents/plans?

Departmental Service Plan	
Section/Team Plan	
Other (Specify)	

Date for further review