



Education Executive

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

3 September 2020

A meeting of the **Education Executive** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Webex Virtual Meeting Room** on **Tuesday 8 September 2020** at **10:00am**.

For Chief Executive

BUSINESS

Public Session

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest - Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration at the meeting, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest
3. Order of Business, including notice of urgent business, declarations of interest in any urgent business and consideration of reports for information.

The Chair will invite members to identify any such reports they wish to have fully considered, which failing they will be taken as read and their recommendations approved.

4. Minutes
 - (a) Confirm Draft Minutes of Meeting of Education Executive held on Tuesday 23 June 2020 (herewith)
 - (b) Confirm Draft Minutes of Meeting of Education Executive held on Tuesday 04 August 2020 (herewith)

Public Items for Decision

5. Revised School Session Dates 2020/21 - Altered August Start Date -

DATA LABEL: Public

Report by Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources)
(herewith)

6. School Session Dates 2021/22 - Report by Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) (herewith)
7. Early Learning and Childcare - Expansion Plan Update - Report by Depute Chief Executive (herewith)

Public Items for Information

8. S5 and S6 SCQF Examination Results 2020 - Report and Presentation by Head of Education (Curriculum, Quality Improvement and Performance) (herewith)
9. Re-opening of Schools - Update - Report by Depute Chief Executive (herewith)

NOTE **For further information please contact Anastasia Dragona on tel. no. 01506 281601 or email anastasia.dragona@westlothian.gov.uk**

CODE OF CONDUCT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

This form is to help members. It is not a substitute for declaring interests at the meeting.

Members should look at every item and consider if they have an interest. If members have an interest they must consider if they have to declare it. If members declare an interest they must consider if they have to withdraw.

NAME	MEETING	DATE

AGENDA ITEM NO.	FINANCIAL (F) OR NON- FINANCIAL INTEREST (NF)	DETAIL ON THE REASON FOR YOUR DECLARATION (e.g. I am Chairperson of the Association)	REMAIN OR WITHDRAW

The objective test is whether a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard the interest as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your discussion or decision making in your role as a councillor.

Other key terminology appears on the reverse.

If you require assistance, please ask as early as possible. Contact Julie Whitelaw, Monitoring Officer, 01506 281626, julie.whitelaw@westlothian.gov.uk, James Millar, Governance Manager, 01506 281695, james.millar@westlothian.gov.uk, Carol Johnston, Chief Solicitor, 01506 281626, carol.johnston@westlothian.gov.uk, Committee Services Team, 01506 281604, 01506 281621 committee.services@westlothian.gov.uk

SUMMARY OF KEY TERMINOLOGY FROM REVISED CODE

The objective test

“...whether a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard the interest as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your discussion or decision making in your role as a councillor”

The General Exclusions

- As a council tax payer or rate payer or in relation to the council's public services which are offered to the public generally, as a recipient or non-recipient of those services
- In relation to setting the council tax.
- In relation to matters affecting councillors' remuneration, allowances, expenses, support services and pension.
- As a council house tenant, unless the matter is solely or mainly about your own tenancy, or you are in arrears of rent.

Particular Dispensations

- As a member of an outside body, either appointed by the council or later approved by the council
- Specific dispensation granted by Standards Commission
- Applies to positions on certain other public bodies (IJB, SEStran, City Region Deal)
- Allows participation, usually requires declaration but not always
- Does not apply to quasi-judicial or regulatory business

The Specific Exclusions

- As a member of an outside body, either appointed by the council or later approved by the council
- The position must be registered by you
- Not all outside bodies are covered and you should take advice if you are in any doubt.
- Allows participation, always requires declaration
- Does not apply to quasi-judicial or regulatory business

Categories of “other persons” for financial and non-financial interests of other people

- Spouse, a civil partner or a cohabitee
- Close relative, close friend or close associate
- Employer or a partner in a firm
- A body (or subsidiary or parent of a body) in which you are a remunerated member or director
- Someone from whom you have received a registrable gift or registrable hospitality
- Someone from whom you have received registrable election expenses

MINUTE of MEETING of the EDUCATION EXECUTIVE held within WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 23 JUNE 2020.

Present – Councillors David Dodds (Chair), Lawrence Fitzpatrick, Stuart Borrowman, Harry Cartmill, Pauline Clark, Tom Conn, Angela Doran (substituting for Councillor Cathy Muldoon), Carl John (substituting for Councillor Sarah King), Peter Heggie, Chris Horne, Charles Kennedy, Dave King, John McGinty, Andrew McGuire, Andrew Miller, George Paul, Moira Shemilt and Kirsteen Sullivan; Appointed Members Elsie Aitken, Heather Hughes, Eric Lumsden, Myra MacPherson, Lynne McEwen and Margaret Russell

Apologies – Councillors Sarah King and Cathy Muldoon

The Education Executive agreed for the meeting to be audio broadcast live.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda item 5 - Re-opening of Schools and Early Learning and Childcare

Councillor Kirsteen Sullivan declared an interest in this item of business in that she was a scheme volunteer.

Heather Hughes declared an interest in that, although she was attending Education Executive as the Secondary/Special Education Teaching Staff representative, she was also joint Chair of the LNCT and would be speaking as such under this item.

Agenda item 7 - School Session Dates 2021/22

Heather Hughes declared an interest in that, although she was attending Education Executive as the Secondary/Special Education Teaching Staff representative, she was also joint Chair of the LNCT and would be speaking as such under this item.

2 ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Education Executive agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 8(3), that agenda items 12 (COVID-19: Use of Emergency Decision-Making Powers) and 13a (Establishment of New Denominational Secondary School at Winchburgh and Associated Proposals) were to be taken as read and their recommendations noted without further consideration.

The Education Executive agreed that information agenda items 11 (Curriculum - Recovery and Re-exploring) and 13b (Revised School Session Dates 2020/21 – Altered August Start Date) would be considered.

3 MINUTE

The Education Executive confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 21 January 2020. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

4 RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS AND EARLY LEARNING AND
CHILDCARE

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive informing members of the plans to re-open schools and early learning and childcare in line with the Scottish Government Direction, Strategic Framework and Guidance. The report also informed members of the key strategic decisions on blended learning with reduced school capacity, facilities management including cleaning and catering and school transport required to enable implementation of the Local Phasing Delivery Plan and the School Recovery Plans.

Members were reassured of the council's robust and resilient procedures regarding addressing issues referred to in the report and of the adaptability of the council's response depending on further guidance from the Scottish Government. All members would be kept updated of developments and further meetings might be scheduled as required.

Teachers and officers were thanked for the way they had adapted to the challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic.

It was recommended that the Education Executive:

1. Approve the Local Phasing Delivery Plan, noting that the Plan was a dynamic document that would continue to evolve in response to legislation, national guidance and in consultation with stakeholders including Headteachers, Parents/Carers, Pupils, Staff and Professional Associations and Trades Unions and give delegated authority to the Depute Chief Executive to implement further changes to the plan;
2. Note that each school would have in place a School Recovery Plan by 24 June 2020 to reflect local and establishment-specific circumstances and that these would also be dynamic;
3. Note the model of blended learning, and that each pupil would be allocated two extended days of in-school learning each week (during Monday-Thursday) and that would equate to 50% of curriculum time;
4. Note the transition arrangements currently under way in schools;
5. Agree the model of school transport provision, subject to approval by the Council Executive in relation to financial resources, and note that the social distancing requirements for public transport had significant cost implications and capacity risks for both mainstream and ASN school transport.

6. Agree the model of provision of free school meals for all eligible pupils subject to approval by the Council Executive in relation to financial resources;
7. Note that within each School Recovery Plan arrangements for school catering were being developed that maintained the breakfast option and the provision of a hot meal option in all schools;
8. Note the enhanced cleaning currently being implemented in schools;
9. Submit the Plan to Education Scotland by 24 June; and
10. Note a separate report would be presented to Council Executive, which included a request for authority to write to the Scottish Government to request full funding for the cost implications of the re-opening schools plan which were set out in section D3 of the report.

Decision

1. To approve the terms of the report.
2. The Education Executive made the commitment that all members would be kept updated on any requirements emerging from Scottish Government guidance and how the council would propose to fulfil them.

5 SCOTTISH SCHOOLS (PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT) ACT 2006 - UPDATED STATUTORY GUIDANCE CONSULTATION

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Curriculum, Quality Improvement and Performance) inviting members to consider the Scottish Government consultation on the updated draft of the statutory guidance of the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006, and approve the draft response to the consultation.

It was recommended that the Education Executive consider the updated draft of the statutory guidance of the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 consultation and approve the draft response to the consultation, which was intended for submission to the Scottish Government by the extended deadline of 30 June 2020.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

6 SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2021/22

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) informing members of the proposed school session dates for 2021/22.

It was recommended that the Education Executive approve the proposed dates for 2021/22.

It was agreed that the decision would be deferred to the September meeting of the Education Executive in order to allow further discussion between the LNCT and the council before the proposed school dates were finalised.

Decision

To defer decision to the next meeting of the Education Executive.

7 OUTCOME OF THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF S2 STAGE EDUCATION WITHIN OGILVIE SCHOOL CAMPUS

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) informing members of the outcome of the public consultation on the proposal to establish S2 stage education within Ogilvie School Campus.

It was recommended that Education Executive:

1. Note the Final Report on the Statutory Consultation including the report from Education Scotland; and
2. Approve the proposal to introduce S2 stage education at Ogilvie School Campus.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

8 NAMING OF THE NEW DENOMINATIONAL AND NON-DENOMINATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT WINCHBURGH AND NEW NON-DENOMINATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL AT CALDERWOOD, EAST CALDER

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) informing members of the views of stakeholders on the names of the new secondary schools at Winchburgh and new non-denominational primary school at Calderwood, East Calder, and asking the Education Executive to determine the names of the schools.

It was recommended that the Education Executive consider and determine the names of the new secondary schools at Winchburgh and

new non-denominational primary school at Calderwood, East Calder.

Decision

1. To approve the terms of the report.
2. To agree the names of the schools as emerged from the consultations.

9 WEST LOTHIAN (PLACING IN SCHOOLS) APPEAL COMMITTEE - RECRUITMENT AND APPEAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Corporate Services informing members of the outcome of a recent exercise to recruit additional members to the West Lothian (Placing in Schools) Appeal Committee, asking them to agree the new appointments and seeking approval to delegate authority to the Chief Solicitor to make recommendations in relation to Placing in Schools Appeals hearings for the 2020/21 academic year.

It was noted that Councillors Jim Dickson, Andrew Miller and Moira Shemilt had been appointed to the Placing in Schools Appeals Committee and were to undergo training before being able to attend meetings of the committee.

It was recommended that the Education Executive:

1. Note the outcome of the recent exercise to recruit additional members to the West Lothian (Placing in Schools) Appeal Committee;
2. Appoint the new members and note the list of existing members to the committee as shown in the Appendix to the report; and
3. Delegate authority to the Chief Solicitor to identify and fix such dates as may be necessary for the conduct of Appeals.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

10 CURRICULUM - RECOVERY AND RE-EXPLORING

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Curriculum, Quality Improvement and Performance) informing members of the recovery plans for delivering the curriculum and the council's aspirational vision for re-exploring the curriculum offer.

During discussion, officers answered a number of questions from members and reiterated the council's approaches to ensuring effective

curriculum delivery.

It was recommended that the Education Executive note the recovery plans for delivering the curriculum and note future plans for evolving the curriculum offer as illustrated in the accompanying presentation.

Decision

To note the terms of the report and presentation.

11 COVID-19: USE OF EMERGENCY DECISION-MAKING POWERS

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Chief Executive on the use of emergency and other delegated powers in tackling the impact of the coronavirus emergency.

It was recommended that the Education Executive note the use made of delegated powers in tackling the coronavirus emergency.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

12 FOR INFORMATION ALL REPORTS APPROVED UNDER STANDING ORDER 31 SINCE 24 MARCH 2020

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DENOMINATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL AT WINCHBURGH AND ASSOCIATED PROPOSALS

12a Decision

To note the action taken in terms of Standing Order 31 (Urgent Business).

REVISED SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2020/21 – ALTERED AUGUST START DATE

12b The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) informing members of the proposed revised school session start date for 2020/21.

It was noted that consultation with parents on the end-of-term date for June 2021 was currently under way and the proposed dates emerging from the consultation would be brought to the next meeting of the Education Executive.

The Council Executive was asked to note the action that had been taken

in terms of Standing Order 31 (Urgent Business) with regard to this report.

Decision

To note the action taken in terms of Standing Order 31 (Urgent Business).

MINUTE of MEETING of the EDUCATION EXECUTIVE held within WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 4 AUGUST 2020.

Present – Councillors David Dodds (Chair), Lawrence Fitzpatrick, Stuart Borrowman, Harry Cartmill, Pauline Clark, Tom Conn, Jim Dickson (substituting for Councillor Sarah King), Peter Heggie, Chris Horne, Charles Kennedy, Dave King, John McGinty, Andrew McGuire, Andrew Miller, Cathy Muldoon, George Paul, Moira Shemilt and Kirsteen Sullivan; Appointed Members Elsie Aitken, Heather Hughes, Eric Lumsden, Myra MacPherson and Lynne McEwen

Apologies – Councillor Sarah King

Absent – Appointed Member Margaret Russell

Education Executive agreed for the meeting to be audio webcast.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Heather Hughes declared an interest in that, although she was attending Education Executive as the Secondary/Special Education Teaching Staff, she was also Joint Chair of the LNCT as well as Vice President of EIS, and she would be speaking in that capacity.

2 ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair ruled in terms of Standing Order 28 (Changing a Decision) that agenda item 4 (Re-opening of Schools – Update) could be considered and decisions made as there had been a material change in circumstances since the matter had been considered at the previous meeting of the Education Executive and the issuing of the Educational Continuity No. 2 Direction on 10 June 2020.

3 REOPENING OF SCHOOLS - UPDATE

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive inviting members to approve the plan to re-open schools and early learning and childcare in line with the Scottish Government Guidance issued on 30 July 2020 and informing members of the key arrangements necessary to support the re-opening of schools and early learning and childcare.

An animation on returning to school plans was shown, which would be made live online later in the day.

In response to a question from members, contracts for newly qualified teachers were then discussed.

Members were provided assurances regarding the safety preparedness of the schools and cleaning and ventilation arrangements were explained in detail. Provisions for shielding and pregnant teachers were further clarified, and measures in case of an outbreak at a school were also discussed.

Officers also confirmed that the council had robust data on quality of learning, which would be used to evaluate the effectiveness of online learning that had taken place so far. Individual pupil attendance and wellbeing would be monitored and addressed as required.

Officers were thanked for their hard work on reopening schools in the current circumstances.

It was recommended that the Education Executive:

1. Approve the plan to re-open schools and early learning and childcare from 11 August 2020 on a phased basis, with all schools fully open to pupils by 14 August 2020;
2. Note that each school had a School Recovery Plan, and also had in place a contingency School Recovery Plan as reported to the Education Executive at its meeting of 23 June 2020;
3. Note the arrangements for maintaining distance, grouping of children, enhanced environmental cleaning, and other essential public health measures;
4. Note the arrangements for the recovery of in-school learning and teaching;
5. Note the arrangements for school transport in line with guidance for the transport of pupils; and
6. Note that further local context to the Guidance would be provided in the Local Recovery Plan being produced under the delegated authority of the Depute Chief Executive, and that previous plans for blended learning remained as a contingency.

Decision

1. To approve the terms of the report.
2. To further consider arrangements regarding pregnant teachers in the risk assessment and to communicate final arrangements to members.
3. To finalise and communicate to headteachers details regarding additional cleaning equipment in classrooms.
4. To consolidate with headteachers arrangements for pupils consuming mid-morning snacks.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Depute Chief Executive provided an informal and high-level summary of SQA results.

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

REVISED SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2020/21 – ALTERED AUGUST START DATE

REPORT BY HEAD OF EDUCATION (LEARNING, POLICY AND RESOURCES)

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Education Executive of the proposed revised school session dates for 2020/21.

B. RECOMMENDATION

To approve the proposed revised dates for 2020/21

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; working in partnership.
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	<p>Excellent and Equity During the COVID-19 Pandemic – A Strategic Framework for Reopening Schools, Early Learning and Childcare Provision in Scotland</p> <p>The proposal conforms to Council practice regarding local holidays. There is a statutory requirement for schools to provide 190 teaching days for pupils.</p> <p>No environmental, health or risk issues have been identified.</p>
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	The timing of school holidays is a factor in successful examination preparation and therefore may impact on Council attainment performance indicators.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	None.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None.

- | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|---|
| VII | Consideration at PDSP | Via E-mail |
| VIII | Other consultations | Consultation with chair of the West Lothian Council Parent Forum, Headteachers, Parent Councils, Operational Services and LNCT. |

D. TERMS OF REPORT

The Education Executive had previously agreed Term dates for School Session 2020/21 at its meeting of 11 June 2019.

The Education Executive, at its meeting of 23 June 2020, agreed that the 2020/21 session would start on Tuesday 11 August 2020, four days earlier than originally agreed. The in-service day previously planned for Monday 17 August 2020 took place on Tuesday 11 August 2020. Pupils returned on Wednesday 12 August 2020 rather than Tuesday 18 August 2020.

These arrangements mean that alterations to other aspects of the agreed term dates are necessary to ensure the correct number of teaching days in the session, and the Education Executive agreed to consider these further following consultation with parents, headteachers, Operational Services and the LNCT.

Consultation took place with Education PDSP, the chair of the West Lothian Council Parent Forum, Headteachers, the chairs of Parent Councils and LNCT. The proposal which was consulted on was to return the four days leave at the end of the school year, plus for one day from the Christmas Holiday to be moved to the end of the session to allow schools to finish a full week early in June.

While some Headteachers were in favour of the proposal, the majority of responses were against and there was no support from Parent Councils for the proposal. Teaching Unions objected to the Christmas break being shortened. Headteachers highlighted that staff had risen to an exceptional challenge at the start of session to implement the many changes required for the return to school following lockdown and a shorter break at Christmas would not be welcomed. Many responses from Headteachers and Parent Councils stated that a longer summer holiday would not benefit pupils or parents.

Most responses suggested adding the four leave days onto the holidays in October, Christmas or February. A smaller number suggested adding the days to the breaks in May or September, or some additional days to be added to other holidays and a slightly earlier finish in June.

Updates from the SQA indicate that the last exam may be on the 24 June 2021, making an early finish to the school session impractical.

There was no consensus therefore the proposal to the Education Executive reflects the wishes expressed in the majority of responses for additional days to be added to the October, Christmas and February breaks. The proposal is for one day to be added to the October break (19 October and in service day is moved to 20 October), two to the Christmas break (21 and 22 December) and one to the February break (17 February).

Another update not related to the early start of term is that the in service day on Tuesday 22 September will be the day on which school staff take the additional day of leave granted to all Council employees in recognition of the contribution made in helping to achieve successful outcomes in the EFQM and CSE assessments.

The September in service day for staff will not be rescheduled. If any member of staff wishes to take advantage of their full entitlement to five annual in-service days local arrangements will be put in place to deliver additional in-service opportunities on two Friday afternoons. These two Friday afternoons are not-compulsory. Staff will be informed of the opportunity, and any staff who wish to take up the opportunity should make the request to their Headteacher.

Appendices 1 and 2 set out the previously agreed term dates.

Appendix 3 lists the proposed revised school session dates for 2020/21. Appendix 4 shows these dates in a calendar format or ease of reference.

E. CONCLUSION

The Education Executive is invited to approve the proposed revised session dates for 2020/21.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Education Executive of 11 June 2019 and 23 June 2020.

Appendices/Attachments:

1. Agreed session dates for 2020/21.
2. Agreed session dates for 2020/21 calendar format.
3. Proposed revised session dates for 2020/21.
4. Proposed revised session dates for 2020/21 calendar format.

Contact Person: Hannah Haywood, Customer Services Manager

Email: Hannah.haywood@westlothian.gov.uk

James Cameron, Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources)

Date of meeting: 8 September 2020

DRAFT SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2020/2021

			STAFF WORKING DAYS	TEACHING DAYS
TERM 1				
<u>Return after Summer</u>	All staff and nursery pupils resume Pupils resume	* Monday, 17 August 2020 Tuesday, 18 August 2020	25	24
<u>September Holiday</u>	All break All staff and nursery pupils resume Pupils resume	* Friday, 18 September 2020 Tuesday, 22 September 2020 Wednesday, 23 September 2020	14	13
<u>October Holiday</u>	All break All staff and nursery pupils resume Pupils resume	* Friday, 9 October 2020 Monday, 19 October 2020 Tuesday, 20 October 2020	47	46
<u>Last day of term</u>	All break	Tuesday, 22 December 2020	86	83
TERM 2				
<u>Return after Christmas</u>	All staff and nursery pupils resume Pupils resume	* Tuesday, 5 January 2021 Wednesday, 6 January 2021	29	28
<u>February Holiday</u>	All break All resume	Friday, 12 February 2021 Wednesday, 17 February 2021	32	32
<u>Last day of term</u>	All break	Thursday, 1 April 2021	61	60
Good Friday Easter Monday	All off All off	Friday, 2 April 2021 Monday, 5 April 2021		
TERM 3				
<u>Return after Easter</u>	All resume	Monday, 19 April 2021	10	10
<u>May Holiday</u> May Public Holiday	All break All off All resume Staff In-Service (nurseries open unless affected by Election)	Friday, 30 April 2021 Monday, 3 May 2021 Tuesday, 4 May 2021 * Thursday, 6 May 2021	38	37
1 day local holiday as detailed below #				
<u>Last day of term</u>		Friday, 25 June 2021	48	47
			<i>totals</i>	<u>195</u> <u>190</u>
# a)	All schools except those at b) and c) below:	Spring Day	Monday, 24 May 2021	
b)	Bathgate Academy and feeder primary schools plus St Mary's, Bathgate & St Columba's (excluding Blackburn, Murrayfield and Seafeld Primary schools)	Newlands Day	Monday, 7 June 2021 (subject to confirmation)	
c)	Linlithgow Academy and feeder primary schools plus St Joseph's Primary School, Linlithgow:	Linlithgow Marches	Tuesday, 15 June 2021 (subject to confirmation)	
SESSION 2021/2022				
Staff resume		Monday, 16 August 2021 (to be confirmed)		
Pupils resume		Tuesday, 17 August 2021 (to be confirmed)		

August 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



= pupils on holiday



= staff in-service / nurseries open (unless affected by election)



= public holiday - everybody off



= Linlithgow Marches (Linlithgow Schools only)



= Spring Day



= Newlands Day (Bathgate Schools only)

DRAFT SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2020/2021

			STAFF WORKING DAYS	TEACHING DAYS
TERM 1				
<u>Return after Summer</u>	All staff resume Pupils resume	* Tuesday, 11 August 2020 Wednesday, 12 August 2020	29	28
<u>September Holiday</u>	All break Staff EFQM day, formerly In-Service day All resume	Friday, 18 September 2020 Tuesday, 22 September 2020 * Wednesday, 23 September 2020	14	13
<u>October Holiday</u>	All break All staff and nursery pupils resume Pupils resume	Friday, 9 October 2020 * Tuesday, 20 October 2020 Wednesday, 21 October 2020	44	43
<u>Last day of term</u>	All break	Friday, 18 December 2020	87	84
TERM 2				
<u>Return after Christmas</u>	All staff and nursery pupils resume Pupils resume	* Tuesday, 5 January 2021 Wednesday, 6 January 2021	29	28
<u>February Holiday</u>	All break All resume	Friday, 12 February 2021 Thursday, 18 February 2021	31	31
<u>Last day of term</u>	All break	Thursday, 1 April 2021	60	59
Good Friday Easter Monday	All off All off	Friday, 2 April 2021 Monday, 5 April 2021		
TERM 3				
<u>Return after Easter</u>	All resume	Monday, 19 April 2021	10	10
<u>May Holiday</u> May Public Holiday	All break All off All resume Staff In-Service (nurseries open unless affected by Election)	Friday, 30 April 2021 Monday, 3 May 2021 Tuesday, 4 May 2021 * Thursday, 6 May 2021	38	37
1 day local holiday as detailed below #				
<u>Last day of term</u>		Friday, 25 June 2021	48	47
<i>totals</i>			<u>195</u>	<u>190</u>

# a)	All schools except those at b) and c) below:	Spring Day	Monday, 24 May 2021
b)	Bathgate Academy and feeder primary schools plus St Mary's, Bathgate & St Columba's (excluding Blackburn, Murrayfield and Seafield Primary schools)	Newlands Day	Monday, 7 June 2021 (subject to confirmation)
c)	Linlithgow Academy and feeder primary schools plus St Joseph's Primary School, Linlithgow:	Linlithgow Marches	Tuesday, 15 June 2021 (subject to confirmation)

SESSION 2021/2022

Staff resume	Monday, 16 August 2021 (to be confirmed)
Pupils resume	Tuesday, 17 August 2021 (to be confirmed)

15

August 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

21

September 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

16

October 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

21

November 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

14

December 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

19

January 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

17

February 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

23

March 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

11

April 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

19

May 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

19

June 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



= pupils on holiday



= staff in-service / nurseries open (unless affected by election)



= public holiday - everybody off



= Linlithgow Marches (Linlithgow Schools only)



= Spring Day



= Newlands Day (Bathgate Schools only)

52

54

51

38

195

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2021/22

REPORT BY HEAD OF EDUCATION (LEARNING, POLICY AND RESOURCES)

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Education Executive of the revised proposed school session dates for 2021/22.

B. RECOMMENDATION

To approve the revised proposed dates for 2021/22

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; working in partnership.
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	<p>Setting Term Dates is the responsibility of the Education Executive.</p> <p>The proposal conforms to Council practice regarding local holidays. There is a statutory requirement for schools to provide 190 teaching days for pupils.</p> <p>The SNCT Handbook sets out the role of the LNCTs in the placement of closure days and annual leave within non-teaching days, and not the setting of the school holiday period itself.</p> <p>No environmental, health or risk issues have been identified.</p>
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	The timing of school holidays is a factor in successful examination preparation and therefore may impact on Council attainment performance indicators.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	None.

VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	Via e-mail.
VIII	Other consultations	Consultation with West Lothian Council Parent Forum, Parent Councils, Headteachers, Operational Services and LNCT undertaken.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

The Education Executive, at its meeting of 23 June 2020 agreed to defer a decision on the proposed session dates for 2021/22, in light of the comments of the teaching unions. Consultation had also taken place with PDSP, Parent Councils and Head Teachers. The original proposal and feedback from the consultation are contained in the report from the 23 June.

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=45852>

The revised proposal includes two non-teaching days in February.

The In-Service day previously proposed for 15 February will become a holiday for pupils and staff. The 5 January 2021 will become an In-Service Day rather than a teaching day. The teaching day will be added back in before the Christmas Holiday on Wednesday 22 December, which was originally proposed as a holiday for pupils and staff.

The revised proposed dates are in line with the request of the teaching unions, with standard Council practice of not including a week's holiday in February and with Council Policy for the setting of the Easter Holiday which was agreed by the Education Executive in June 2015.

Appendix 1 lists the revised proposed school session dates for 2021/22. Appendix 2 shows these dates in a calendar format for ease of reference.

Appendix 3 shows the proposed session dates in those neighbouring authorities which have published dates so far for session 2021/22. Members should note that as usual these dates differ from each other, and so it will not be possible to set holiday which coincide with all neighbouring authorities.

E. CONCLUSION

The Education Executive is invited to approve the revised proposed session dates for 2021/22.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Education Executive of 9 June 2015.

Education Executive of 23 June 2020.

Appendices/Attachments:

1. Revised proposed session dates for 2021/22.
2. Revised proposed session dates for 2021/22 calendar format.
3. Neighbouring authorities' session dates.

Contact Person: Hannah Haywood, Customer Services Manager

Email: Hannah.haywood@westlothian.gov.uk

James Cameron, Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources)

Date of meeting: 8 Sept 2020

DRAFT SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2021/2022

			STAFF WORKING DAYS	TEACHING DAYS
TERM 1				
<u>Return after Summer</u>	Staff resume Pupils resume	* Monday, 16 August 2021 Tuesday, 17 August 2021	25	24
<u>September Holiday</u>	All break Staff resume Pupils resume	Friday, 17 September 2021 * Tuesday, 21 September 2021 Wednesday, 22 September 2021	14	13
<u>October Holiday</u>	All break Staff resume Pupils resume	Friday, 8 October 2021 * Monday, 18 October 2021 Tuesday, 19 October 2021	48	47
<u>Last day of term</u>	All break	Wednesday, 22 December 2021	87	84
TERM 2				
<u>Return after Christmas</u>	Staff resume Pupils resume	Wednesday, 5 January 2022 Thursday 6 January 2022	28	27
<u>February Holiday</u>	All break All resume	Friday, 11 February 2022 Wednesday, 16 February 2022	33	33
<u>Last day of term</u>	All break	Friday, 1 April 2022	61	60
Good Friday Easter Monday	All off All off	Friday, 15 April 2022 Monday, 18 April 2022		
TERM 3				
<u>Return after Easter</u>	All resume	Tuesday, 19 April 2022	9	9
<u>May Holiday</u>	All break	Friday, 29 April 2022		
May Public Holiday	All off All resume Staff In-Service (pupils off)	Monday, 2 May 2022 Tuesday, 3 May 2022 * Thursday, 5 May 2022	38	37
1 day local holiday as detailed below #				
<u>Last day of term</u>		Friday, 24 June 2022	47	46
<i>totals</i>			<u>195</u>	<u>190</u>
# a)	All schools except those at b) and c) below:	Spring Day	Monday, 23 May 2022	
b)	Bathgate Academy and feeder primary schools plus St Mary's, Bathgate & St Columba's (excluding Blackburn, Murrayfield and Seafeld Primary schools)	Newlands Day	Monday, 6 June 2022 (subject to confirmation)	
c)	Linlithgow Academy and feeder primary schools plus St Joseph's Primary School, Linlithgow:	Linlithgow Marches	Tuesday, 14 June 2022 (subject to confirmation)	

SESSION 2022/2023

Staff resume Monday, 15 August 2022 (to be confirmed)
Pupils resume Tuesday, 16 August 2022 (to be confirmed)

11

August 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

20

September 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

15

October 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

22

November 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

16

December 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

18

January 2022						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

18

February 2022						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

23

March 2022						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

10

April 2022						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

19

May 2022						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

18

June 2022						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 2022						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



= pupils on holiday



= pupils on holiday & staff in-service



= public holiday - everybody off



= Linlithgow Marches (Linlithgow Schools only)



= Spring Day



= Bathgate Local Holiday (Bathgate Schools only)

46

56

51

37

190

Neighbouring Authority Session Dates 2021/2022 (Pupils)

Council	Falkirk	Scottish Borders	Edinburgh	Mid Lothian	North Lanarkshire	South Lanarkshire	Glasgow (2022 still in draft)	West Lothian (draft)
Start of Session	18 Aug 21	18 Aug 21	18 Aug 21	18 Aug 21	Not available	Not available	16 Aug 21	17 Aug 21
September	13 Sep 21	n/a	20 Sep 21	20 Sep 21			24 & 27 Sep 21	20 & 21 Sep 21
October	11-18 Oct 21	11-18 Oct 21	15 Oct - 26 Oct 21	18 Oct – 25 Oct 21			8 – 15 Oct 21	11-18 Oct 21
Christmas	22 Dec 21 - 4 Jan 22	29 Nov 21 (St Andrew's Day) 24 Dec 11 – 7 Jan 22	24 Dec 21 - 10 Jan 22	23 Dec 21 – 10 Jan 22			23 Dec 21 – 4 Jan 22	23 Dec 21 – 5 Jan 22
February	11- 15 Feb 22	14-18 Feb 22	14 – 18 Feb 22	14-18 Feb 22			14-16 Feb 22	14 & 15 Feb 22
Spring	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			n/a	n/a
Easter	4-18 Apr 22	4-15 Apr 22	11 Apr – 22 Apr 22	11 Apr - 22 Apr 22			Early close 1 Apr 22, hols 4-18 Apr 22.	4 – 18 Apr 22
May	2 & 5 May 22	2 & 3 May 22	2 & 3 May 22, 23 May 22.	2 May22, 23 May 22			2 & 5 May 22 27&30 May 22	2 & 5 May 22 plus one local holiday
End of session	27 Jun 22	30 Jun 22	30 Jun 22.	30 Jun 22			Early close 24 June 22.	24 Jun 22

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE – EXPANSION PLAN UPDATE

REPORT BY DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Education Executive of the progress of the approved Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Expansion Plan to deliver 1140 hours of free, high quality ELC within West Lothian.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Education Executive:

1. Note the update and the revenue budget pressure within the ELC expansion plan and;
2. To agree a further update be brought to the Education Executive when the Scottish Government notifies local authorities of the new implementation date for 1140 hours.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	<p>The Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Plan has been written in response to the Scottish Government policy to expand provision of early learning and childcare from 600 to 1140 hours by August 2020 (now suspended, as set out in its Planning Guidance for Local Authorities.</p> <p>Local Authorities will retain the statutory responsibility for ensuring that early learning and childcare is available to all eligible children in the area.</p>

Statutory Guidance has been issued in relation to early learning and childcare duties under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

No environmental, health or risk issues have been identified.

An equality relevance assessment has been undertaken.

III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	<p>Scottish Government publication of the 'Funding Follows the Child' in December 2018. Planning assumption is that the plan is fully funded.</p> <p>Revenue funding to expand the early learning and childcare workforce and additional free hours:</p> <p>2018/19 - £2,574,997 + £209,733 (one-off grant support for partner providers).</p> <p>2019/20 - £6,117,000.</p> <p>2020/21 - £5,691,000.</p> <p>2021/22 - £1,661,000.</p> <p>Total: £16,044,000 (excluding £209,733 above).</p> <p>Capital Funding - £13,290,000.</p> <p>A Workforce Plan has been developed in consultation with Trade Unions and regular meetings in place to provide updates on progress.</p>
VII	Consideration at PDSP	17 December 2019
VIII	Other consultations	Parents/carers have been consulted on increased flexibility and choice in early learning

and childcare. Additional consultations have been undertaken in relation to the expansion to 1140 hours new locations for 2020/21.

Agreement in place with the Scottish Childminders association (SCMA).

Consultation with all ELC staff was undertaken between January 2019 and May 2019. Further staff consultation was undertaken between January and March 2020.

Financial Management Unit and Operational Services (Facilities Management)
Non-teaching Trade Unions.

Ongoing consultation with current partner providers in relation to the hourly rate paid in 2020/21.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Introduction

The Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Expansion Plan was submitted by each local authority to the Scottish Government in order to inform the national ELC Expansion Programme in October 2017. A separate response was submitted in relation to the estimated capital and revenue costs associated with the plan.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Scottish Government announced on 30 March 2020 that the legal requirement for local authorities to provide 1140 hours from August 2020 was suspended with no future date for implementation confirmed. However, the Scottish Government have advised that local authorities will be given at least six months notice of the new implementation date for 1140 hours with a review date in December 2020.

The Scottish Government also directed local authorities to utilise the revenue funding provided for the ELC expansion to support key COVID service provision such as critical childcare for keyworkers and vulnerable children and to continue payments for funded placements to private partner ELC providers whether they were open or closed.

As the revenue funding provided for the ELC Expansion has been fully committed for 2020/21, this has resulted in an overspend of £450,000 related to this emergency provision. This figure has been provided to COSLA as part of the additional COVID response support costs incurred since March 2020.

D2 Progress to March 2020

Up to March 2020, the phased implementation of increased hours of ELC was progressing well across West Lothian with all eligible children receiving more than the statutory entitlement of 600 hours per annum.

Key work, however in relation to construction works on new nurseries and nursery extensions, trialling free school meals in early years settings, building works required to install servery/hot plates to keep meals hot and the associated staffing requirements in relation to the catering provision were all halted due to the pandemic. Since March 2020, resources have been focused on critical COVID service provision as outlined in D1 above.

D3 Current Position

The latest Scottish Government guidance in relation to ELC was published on 31 July (effective from 10 August 2020) and replaced the ELC guidance published on 15 June 2020.

In response to the revised guidance, West Lothian Council ELC provision from 12 August 2020 provides up to 1000 hours per annum (20 hours per week) between 8.00 – 18.00 Monday – Thursday, providing the choice of morning, afternoon or full day sessions across 50 weeks per annum.

Retaining these choices with the current session times, enables settings to comply with the Scottish Government requirements outlined above with a 30 minute break to facilitate cleaning between sessions and ensure physical distancing at drop-off and pick-up times whilst maintaining staff/pupil ratios.

Parents/carers were advised of their ELC placement and of the session times/days at the end of June 2020 to enable them to make appropriate further childcare arrangements from 12 August 2020. To maintain equity of provision, funded placements with a private provider also remains at 1000 hours in 2020/21.

The current guidance requires all ELC settings to :

- maximise the use of outdoor spaces.
- Maintain physical distancing between adults in the setting including parents at drop-off and pick-up times.
- Ensure enhanced hygiene and cleaning practice.
- Limiting children's contacts.

Maintaining up to 1000 hours offer during 2020/21 will provide time to:

- Enable a measured response to any future COVID outbreak amongst staff or children in an ELC setting, as the children and supporting staff are in distinct groupings (as per Scottish Government guidance):
- Complete the construction works on new nurseries and extensions to provide increased capacity in council settings. This will further increase flexibility and choice as required in the Blue Print for 2020 document:

- Complete the building works required to provide additional production capacity to provide universal free school meals in ELC settings:
- Complete staffing requirements to support the additional production of universal free school meals in ELC settings:
- Give newly recruited staff a through induction and whole staff training on children's personal plans and a range of training sessions centred around delivering high quality pedagogy:
- Work with Headteachers/ELC Area Support Managers to finalise recruitment plans to ensure that all settings have sufficient staffing in place to maintain the ratio required by the Care Inspectorate.

The implementation of 1140 hours is varied across all local authorities in Scotland at present and the position with those neighbouring authorities is outlined below:

1. Edinburgh City Council are providing 1140 hours in 75% of Council settings and in 85% of partner provider settings from August 2020.
2. North Lanarkshire Council – phasing in 1140 hours from September 2020, restricting applications to partner providers (this does not comply with the principles of Funding follows the Child).
3. South Lanarkshire Council – 600 hours, parents/carers can pay for additional hours in some locations at £3.20 per hour in 2020/21 in some Council locations.
4. Falkirk Council – 1140 hours available in some Council settings and partner providers, no clear picture at present.
5. Glasgow City Council - Providing 1140 wherever it is possible in Council settings within the current guidance. A number of settings have reduced capacity due to the layout. They are prioritising who gets access to 1140 hours, for working single parents and two parent working on low income and vulnerable families. Everyone else gets a minimum 600 hours. They have also rolled 1140 out to all of our partners and have reverted to paying for actual hours delivered.

D4 Current Revenue Budget Position

The Scottish Government have placed choice in the hands of parents/carers by enabling them to access their child's funded entitlement from any provider that meets the new National Standard. This includes childminders, playgroups and private ELC providers.

To meet the Funding Follows the Child requirements approval was given by the Council Executive on 2 December 2019 to tender for ELC private partner providers for a three year period from August 2020. This tender process has increased the number of partner providers from seven in 2018/19 to twenty in 2020/21.

It should be noted that any private provider which a parent/carer chooses and which meets the National Standard, has a place available and is willing to enter into a

contract with the local authority, will be granted funded placements. This means that local authorities have no control over the allocation of the number of funded placements in the private sector.

This increase in flexibility and choice for parents/carers has resulted in a significant increase in the choice for funded placements in private providers. It has also created a significant pressure on the revenue budget of £250,000, this sum excludes £450,000 used to support childcare for keyworkers in 2020/21.

This increase in funded places with private providers was not anticipated when the ELC Expansion Plan and the revenue and capital costings were submitted to the Scottish Government in 2017/18 as the new National Standard and guidance relating to Funding Follows the Child was not published by Scottish Government until 18 December 2018.

The Scottish Government required local authorities to use partner providers for critical childcare for keyworkers and vulnerable children throughout the COVID lockdown period. As a result of this provision, a number of parents/carers have changed their choice of ELC placement from a Council setting to a partner provider to avoid potential future disruption to childcare arrangements (assuming another lockdown occurs).

The profile of ELC placements for children aged three and four years for the period August 2020 – April 2021 is outlined below:

Setting	Number of Children – 2020/21	Number of Children – 2019/20
Council nursery	3279 (85%)	3701 (90.18%)
Private Partner Provider nursery	562 (14.5%)	379 (9.23%)
Partner childminder	27 (0.7%)	25 (0.6%)
Total	3863	4104

A further intake of around 250 children will take place from April 2021, where the demand for partner provider placements may well continue to increase.

Officers have notified the Scottish Government ELC Delivery Team of the impact of Funding Follows the Child and parental choice on the increased uptake of funded placements with partner providers and on the revenue funding position.

D5 Capital Programme

A programme of new build, refurbishment and extensions to ELC settings commenced in 2016/17 utilising the additional capital funding for the ELC expansion. These works have provided increased capacity across ELC settings and in particular provided improved access to outdoor learning.

There were three new ELC settings outlined below and four extensions (Blackridge PS, Howden St Andrews PS, Kirkhill PS and Parkhead PS) within the programme which were due for completion in August 2020 to provide increased capacity and/or increased flexibility options for parents/carers;

- New nursery, St Mary's PS, Bathgate (now due for completion February 2021).
- New nursery extension, Blackburn PS (now due for completion August 2021).
- New nursery extension, Stoneyburn PS (now due for completion February 2021).

An update on the progress on all of these projects will be provided within the next report.

D6 Recruitment

The extended opening hours in council ELC settings 8am – 6pm hours across 50 weeks per year has resulted in an increase in staffing levels from 290 FTE in 18/19 to 495 FTE in 2020/21.

Sixteen ELC Area Support Managers have been appointed in order to support the Headteacher and staff in each setting. These posts provide management support to four settings each outwith the school day to cover 8am – 6pm and throughout the year (e.g. school holidays) across a geographic area. This also complies with Care Inspectorate requirements that there is a manager to be registered to a setting throughout the year, when the Headteacher is not available.

E. CONCLUSION

The Education Executive are asked to note the progress to date.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland:
ELC Expansion Planning Guidance for Local Authorities.

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Person: Donna Adam, Strategic Resources Manager

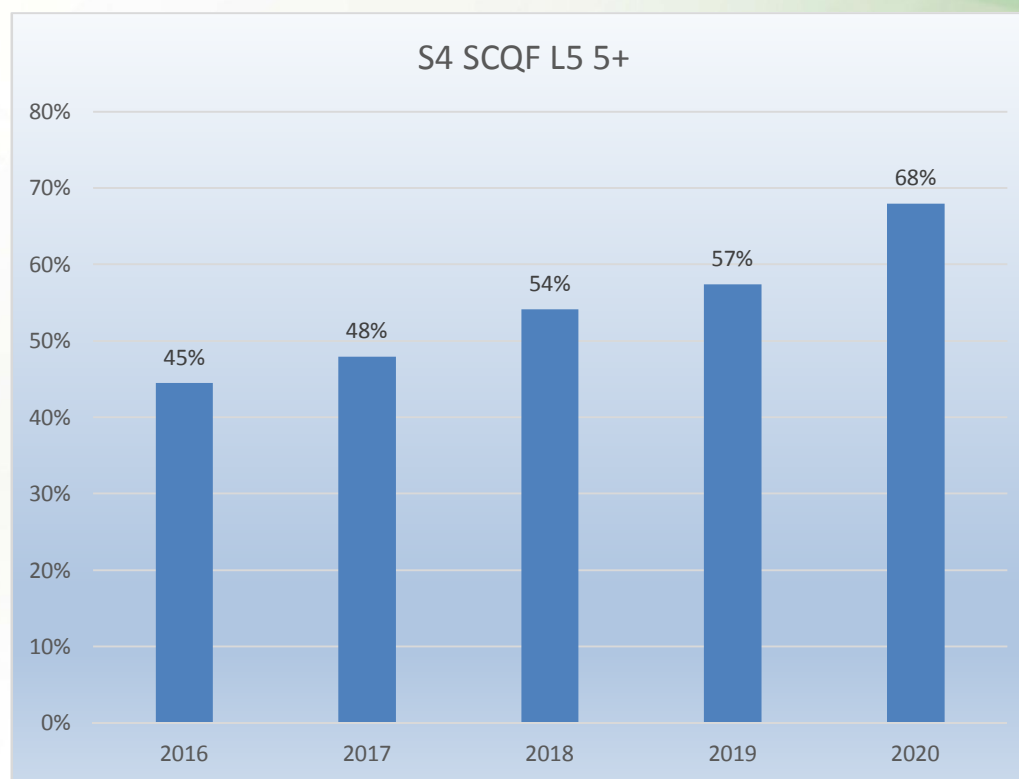
Telephone: 01506 281646 / Email: donna.adam@westlothian.gov.uk

Date of meeting: 8 September 2020

Senior Phase SCQF Results 2020

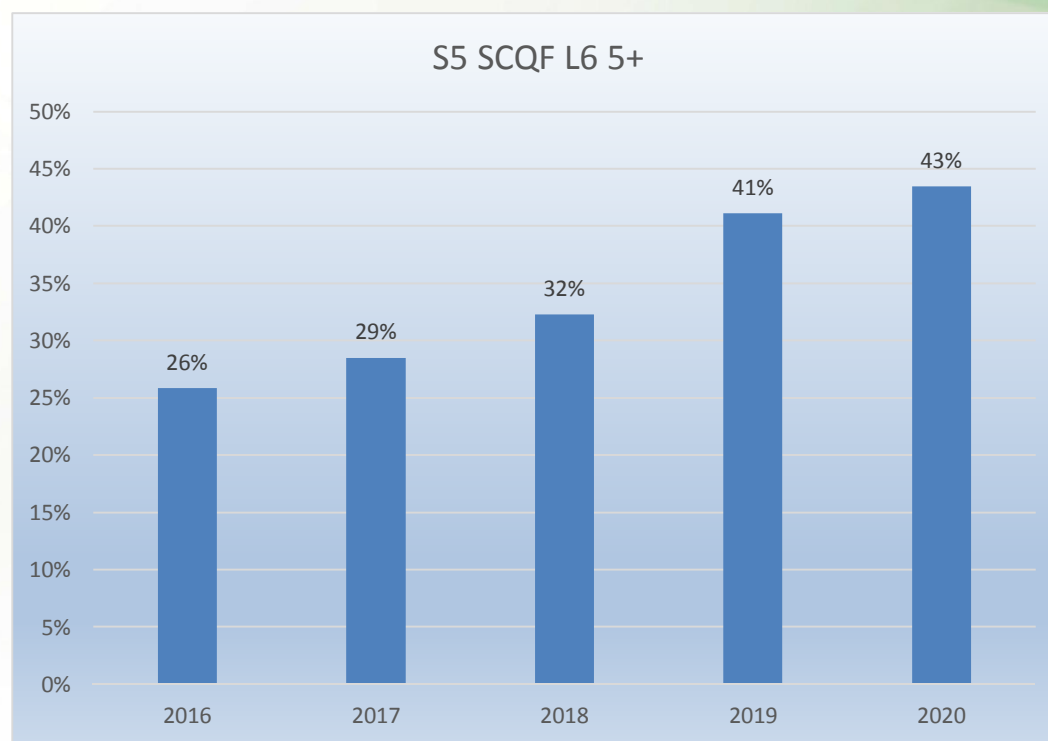
S4 SCQF Results 2020

5 + Awards at SCQF Level 5 (National 5 or equivalent) in S4



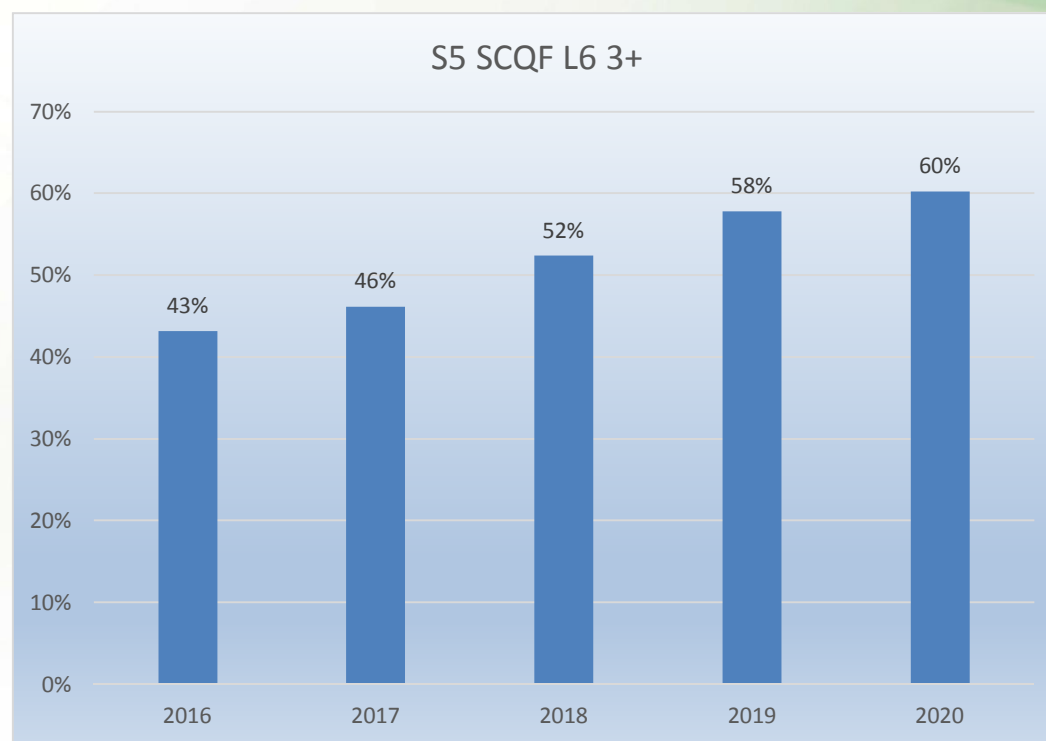
S5 SCQF Results 2020

5 + Awards at SCQF Level 6 (Higher or equivalent) in S5



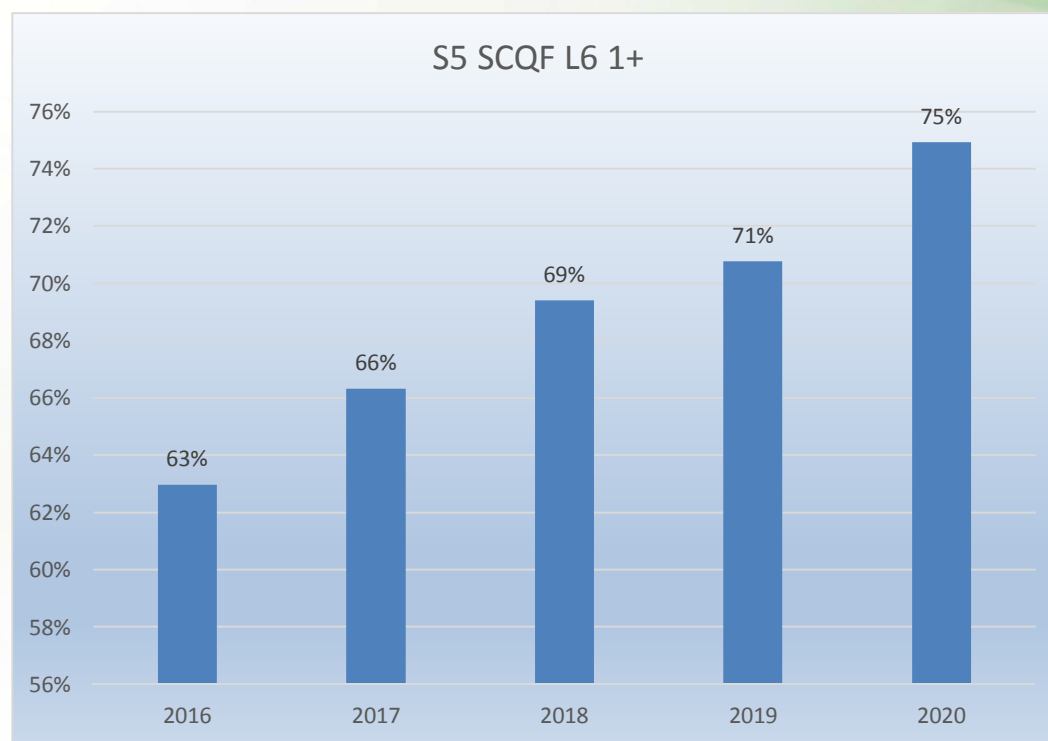
S5 SCQF Results 2020

3 + Awards at SCQF Level 6 (Higher or equivalent) in S5



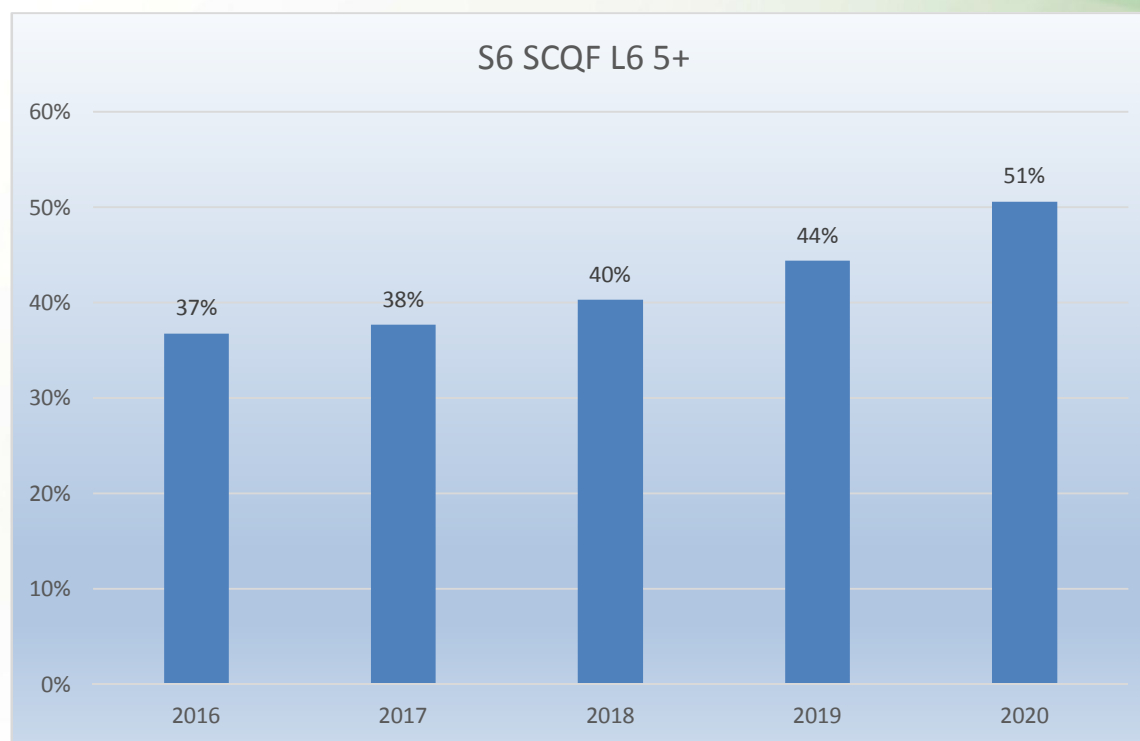
S5 SCQF Results 2020

1 + Awards at SCQF Level 6 (Higher or equivalent) in S5



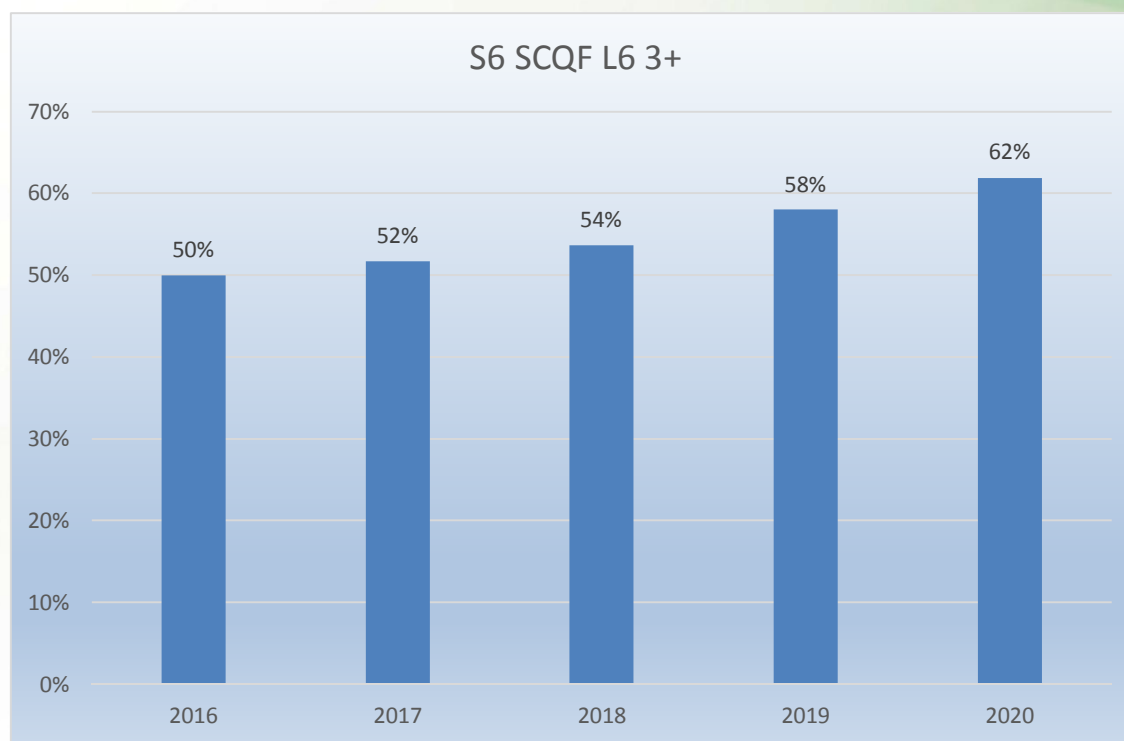
S6 SCQF Results 2020

5 + Awards at SCQF Level 6 (Higher or equivalent) in S6



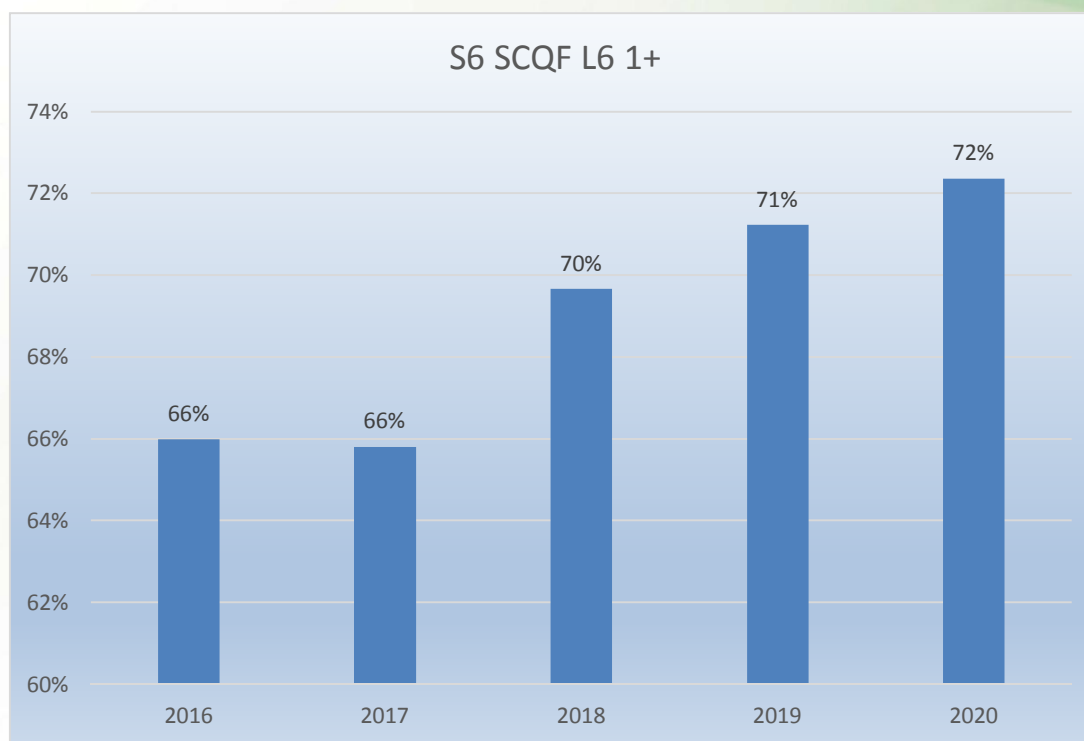
S6 SCQF Results 2020

3 + Awards at SCQF Level 6 (Higher or equivalent) in S6



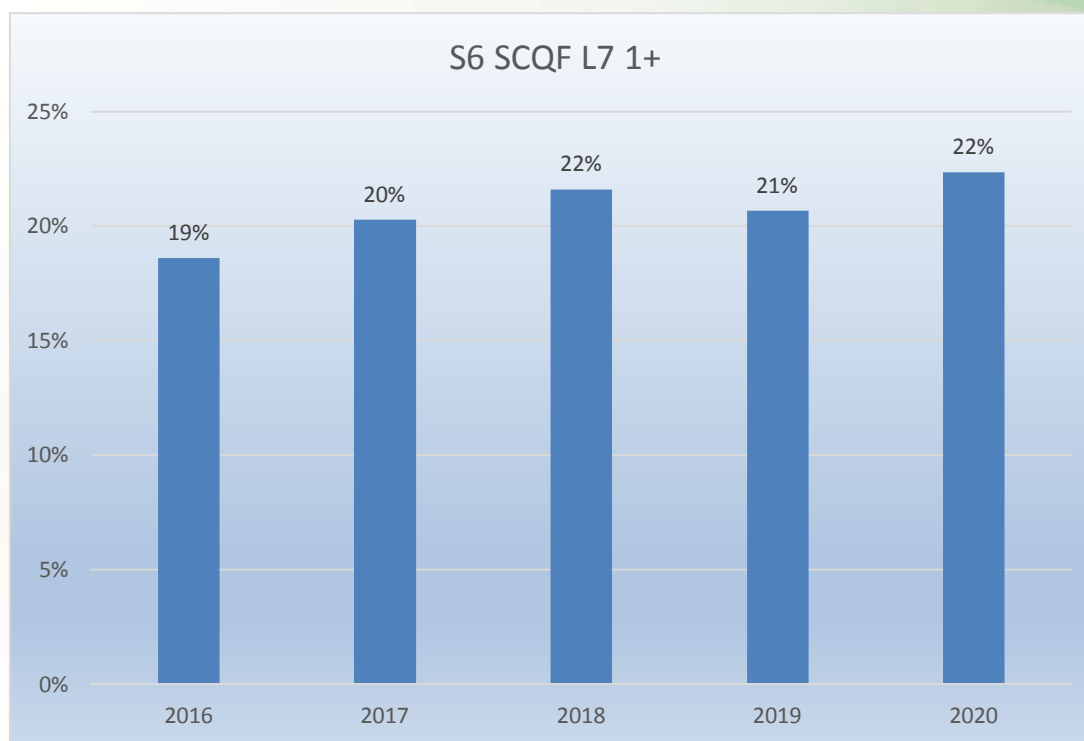
S6 SCQF Results 2020

1 + Awards at SCQF Level 6 (Higher or equivalent) in S6



S6 SCQF Results 2020

1 + Awards at SCQF Level 7 (Advanced Higher or equivalent) in S6



DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

S5 AND S6 SCQF EXAMINATION RESULTS 2020

REPORT BY HEAD OF EDUCATION (CURRICULUM, QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE)

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide members with an update on the performance of students in attaining Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF) Awards at Level 6 (Higher or equivalent) in the S5 and S6 stages, and at Level 7 (Advanced Higher or equivalent including HNC) in the S6 stage.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Education Executive notes:

- that performance of S5 students in 5+, 3+ and 1+ Awards at SCQF Level 6 has risen in the five year period.
- that performance of S6 students in 5+, 3+ and 1+ Awards at SCQF Level 6 has risen in the five year period.
- that SCQF examination performance of S6 students in 1+ Awards at Level 7 has risen in the five year period.
- that further detail of school by school performance will be presented to a future meeting of the Education Executive.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Raising Attainment is a key strategic objective of the Council as set out in the Single Outcome Agreement, Corporate Plan and National Improvement Framework Improvement Plan.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	SCQF attainment is reflected in the key performance indicators of the service.

V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	SCQF attainment is reflected in the performance indicators contained in the Single Outcome Agreement.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Examination results are delivered within agreed central education and devolved school budgets.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Introduction

The Education Executive, at its meeting of 6 December 2016, agreed to adopt Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Awards as the key measure of attainment reported to members, parents and the public with effect from the 2017 exam diet.

The Education Executive noted that moving to the SCQF framework was appropriate as it includes and recognises an extended and enhanced range of achievement in the senior phase which is in line with the principles of Developing the Young Workforce. Specifically, it was agreed to adopt 5+, 3+ and 1+ Level 6 SCQF Awards at point of exit as the key measure of attainment.

It was noted that this change would allow easier comparison with national performance for members, parents and the public, and would present the fullest and most accurate measure of the totality of the attainment and achievement of young people throughout the totality of their school attendance. It was also noted, however, that performance management undertaken at schools and authority level would continue to rely on a wide range of measures in order to allow performance to be measured at key stages, and the performance of particular subjects, curricular areas, and groups of pupils to be measured.

The attainment of 5+, 3+ and 1+ SCQF Awards at Level 6 by students at the S5 stage, and 1+ SCQF Award at Level 7 by students at the S6 stage remain important measures of school performance, and for this reason they will continue to be reported to members annually. In addition in this report the attainment of 5+, 3+, and 1+ SCQF awards at level 6 by students at the S6 stage has been included.

D2 Context

Following school closures on 20th March 2020, and subsequent cancellation of the 2020 exam diet, the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) stated that teachers were best placed to have a strong understanding of how their learners have performed and, based on their experience and the evidence available, what a learner would be expected to achieve in each course. They then issued information to schools on the estimation process. The estimated grades were to be an overall judgement based on all activity across the year, rather than the result of one prelim or one project. Therefore teachers exercised their professional judgement based on a range of evidence including, but not exclusive to, prelims, coursework, tracking reports, homework, classwork, formal and informal feedback, added value from prelim to final and estimate to final in previous years, evidence of incremental improvement over the course, prior attainment in subject or cognate subjects, attendance, assessment arrangements e.g. scribe/reader. Schools also ensured equity and equality for all candidates through considering factors that have impacted candidates' access to learning. All teachers completed an SQA Academy online course prior to making their estimate judgements.

Schools agreed a quality assurance process which was conducted at individual school level. This included Senior Leadership Teams in schools having quality assurance discussions within their schools prior to submission to the centre.

A short term SQA Concordance Working Group led by Head of Service was established to provide guidance and assistance to schools. The data submitted to the group was then analysed and communication took place with individual schools to ensure there was a sound rationale and evidence behind the estimates. Following this, schools submitted estimates to the SQA by 29th May 2020.

On 4th August 2020, young people received their exam results from the SQA. On 11th August the Depute First Minister announced that exam results would be amended to reflect the teacher estimates. On 14th August 2020 there was also an update from the SQA on the appeals process for 2020 which allowed for three grounds upon which centres can submit an appeal. Firstly, centres can submit an appeal if they discover that an administrative error was made when they submitted their estimate or entry information for a candidate, secondly, a centre's internal review process may disclose that a candidate's estimate was affected by discrimination or other conduct by the centre that is unacceptable under the Equality Act 2010. Lastly, where the Head of Centre believes that there has been an error within SQA's internal processes for confirming results to centres following the 11th August announcement, they can also appeal. SQA anticipates that in all three circumstances such appeals will arise only exceptionally.

D3 Attainment at SCQF Level 6 in S5

Over the 5 year period 2016 to 2020, the percentage of students attaining 5+, 3+ and 1+ Awards at SCQF Level 6 in S5 has improved.

In each of the measures, performance of West Lothian schools and students has outperformed both the national average and the virtual comparator. Please note, comparative data for 2020 is not yet available.

The virtual comparator is made up of pupils from schools in other local authorities who have similar characteristics to those in West Lothian schools in terms of factors including stage, gender, additional support needs, and the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.

5 + Awards at SCQF Level 6 in S5

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
West Lothian	26	29	32	41	43
Virtual Comparator	19	19	19	22	N/A
National	19	20	20	22	N/A

3 + Awards at SCQF Level 6

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
West Lothian	43	46	52	58	60
Virtual Comparator	40	38	39	42	N/A
National	39	40	40	43	N/A

1+ Awards at SCQF Level 6

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
West Lothian	63	66	69	71	75
Virtual Comparator	60	58	59	61	N/A
National	59	60	60	62	N/A

D4 Attainment at SCQF Level 6 in S6

Over the 5 year period 2016 to 2020, the percentage of students attaining 5+, 3+ and 1+ Awards at SCQF Level 6 in S6 has improved.

5 + Awards at SCQF Level 6 in S6

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
West Lothian	37	38	40	44	51
Virtual Comparator	35	35	33	33	N/A
National	33	34	34	35	N/A

3 + Awards at SCQF Level 6 in S6

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
West Lothian	50	52	54	58	62
Virtual Comparator	49	49	47	48	N/A
National	47	48	48	50	N/A

1+ Awards at SCQF Level 6 in S6

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
West Lothian	66	66	70	71	72
Virtual Comparator	65	65	63	63	N/A
National	63	63	64	65	N/A

D5 Attainment at SCQF Level 7 in S6

1+ Awards at SCQF Level 7

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
West Lothian	19	20	22	21	22
Virtual Comparator	22	22	22	21	N/A
National	21	21	22	22	N/A

E. CONCLUSION

Attainment has been raised through focused and rigorous application of the Raising Attainment Strategy in all West Lothian Schools. The National Improvement Framework (NIF) Improvement Plan is also used to continue to drive improvement in performance.

The SCQF attainment figures demonstrate that the attainment of West Lothian students has risen over the five year period. They demonstrate that West Lothian students are outperforming the Scottish average and the average of pupils with similar socio economic characteristics at Level 6 in both S5 and S6.

Further detail of school by school performance will be presented to a future meeting of the Education Executive.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Reports to the Education Executive 6th December 2016, 29th August 2017 and 28th November 2017.

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Person:

Catrina Hatch, Senior Development Officer

Telephone: 01506 283924 / Email: Catrina.Hatch@westlothian.gov.uk

Donna McMaster, Head of Education (Curriculum, Quality Improvement and Performance)

Date of meeting: 8 September 2020

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS - UPDATE

REPORT BY DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Education Executive on the re-opening of schools and early learning and childcare in line with the Scottish Government Guidance issued on 30 July 2020.

To inform the Education Executive of the key arrangements implemented to support the re-opening of schools and early learning and childcare.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Education Executive to asked to note

- the re-opening of schools and early learning and childcare in line with the Scottish Government National Guidance.
- the key changes to National Guidance and local Operating Guidance which have occurred since the re-opening of schools.
- the additional costs outlined in the report, and that reimbursement of these will be sought from the Scottish Government in line with the decision of the Council Executive at its meeting of 23 June 2020.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Educational Continuity Directions and related statutory guidance; non-statutory Scottish Government guidance; an integrated impact assessment has been undertaken
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	Delegated authority to the Depute Chief Executive to implement further changes to the Local Phasing and Delivery Plan.
IV	Impact on performance and performance	Potentially significant impact on education outcomes, with mitigation steps set out in this

	Indicators	and previous reports.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	<p>The Scottish Government has stated that it will work with Councils to address resources issues that they face in reopening schools.</p> <p>The net 2020/21 revenue cost of the plan for the full reopening of schools is estimated at £1.668 million. This position is subject to further monitoring and review.</p>
VII	Consideration at PDSP	Due to urgency and short timescales it has not been possible to consult PDSP members and representatives.
VIII	Other consultations	Operational Services, FMU, Governance Manager, Headteachers, teaching and non-teaching trade unions.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

The Education Executive, at its meeting of 23 June 2020, approved a Local Phasing Delivery Plan based on the planning assumption that physical distancing would require a reduction in the number of pupils who could attend school at any one time, and that as a consequence Blended Learning would be required.

The Scottish Government subsequently changed its planning assumption to the full-time re-opening of schools to all pupils from the 11 August 2020. This was conditional on infection rates being sufficiently low to continue to control the virus, public health and testing systems being in place and protective measures and risk assessments being carried out in schools.

The full-time re-opening of schools to all pupils was confirmed by a ministerial statement on 30 July 2020, and an updated Education Continuity Direction was issued. The Scottish Government published Guidance to support implementation of a full-time re-opening of school to all pupils on 30 July 2020, following consultation with local authorities through COSLA.

D.2 Re-opening of Schools

Following publication of the Guidance on 30 July 2020 Recovery Plans and Risk Assessments were updated.

A special meeting of the Education Executive considered the revised Guidance on 4 August 2020. The Executive approved plans to re-open schools and early learning and childcare from 11 August 2020 on a phased basis, with all schools fully open to pupils by 14 August 2020, and that further local context to the Guidance would be provided in the Local Recovery Plan being produced under the delegated authority of the Depute Chief Executive.

Schools and Early Learning and Childcare establishments re-opened to children and young people on Wednesday 12 August 2020, with a return to full time learning in schools on Friday 14 August 2020, as planned and reported to the Education Executive at its meeting of 4 August 2020.

Schools and Early Learning and Childcare Establishments reopened subject to the public health measures and mitigations included in the risk assessment, as set out in the report to the Education Executive, including:

- enhanced hygiene and environmental cleaning arrangements;
- minimising contact with others (groupings, where possible maintaining distancing for young people in secondary schools and physical distancing for adults);
- wearing appropriate personal protective equipment where necessary;
- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home; and
- active engagement with Test and Protect.

D.3 Updated National Guidance – Face Coverings

The Scottish Government updated National Guidance on face coverings from 31st August 2020, based on the latest scientific evidence and the advice of the World Health Organisation regarding both protection of others and protection of the wearer; and the feedback received from stakeholders on the early experiences of school reopening.

The new National Guidance is that face coverings should be worn:

- where adults and young people in secondary schools are moving about the school in corridors and confined communal areas (including toilets) where physical distancing and maintaining appropriate distance is particularly difficult; and
- where adults and children and young people aged 5 and over are travelling on dedicated school transport

The reasons for the new National Guidance is that these are areas where mixing between different groups is more likely, increasing the potential for transmission of the virus. Experience and feedback have demonstrated that crowding and close contact in these areas is more likely, and that voices may be raised resulting in greater potential for creation of aerosols. The scope for effective ventilation is often less. For school transport, the new National Guidance is consistent with the current approach on public transport.

National Guidance remains that:-

- face coverings should not generally be worn in classrooms or other learning and teaching environments.
- face coverings should be worn by adults where they cannot keep 2m distance and are interacting face-to-face for a sustained period (about 15 minutes or more) with other adults and/or children and young people.
- anyone (whether child, young person or adult) wishing to wear a face covering in school should be permitted to do so.
- some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings.

Use of face coverings is just one mitigation within the package of measures contained in school recovery plans and risk assessments. Existing mitigation measures, including physical distancing for adults, environmental cleaning, personal hand and respiratory hygiene, grouping of young people and maintaining distancing between young people in secondary schools where possible, remain vitally important.

Updated local guidance has been given to schools, pupils, parent carers and transport operators to support the new National Guidance on face coverings. Schools will support pupils to comply with the National Guidance. No pupil will be excluded from school, or refused entry to school transport, on the grounds that they are not wearing a face covering.

D.4 Other Updates to Operational Guidance

The Education Executive was previously informed that Operational Guidance to West Lothian schools was necessarily dynamic and subject to change. Operational Guidance continues to evolve in light of revised National Guidance, the experience of schools and early learning and Childcare Establishments in the early days of reopening, and consultation with pupils, parents/carer and staff and their representatives.

The Education Executive is asked to note that some aspects of Operational Guidance have been re-emphasised or amended, as follows:-

Advice regarding the attendance of pupils at school with non-COVID related symptoms

All West Lothian schools are following national Scottish Government National Guidance, which is based on scientific advice, and the additional health guidance issued by the NHS in relation to attendance at school. There has been some confusion amongst parents/carers on this issue as guidance continues to be developed and disseminated.

If a child or young person develops Coronavirus symptoms then they must not attend school, and parents/carers should follow the advice provided by NHS Inform (www.nhsinform.scot).

The most common symptoms of Coronavirus are a new continuous cough; fever/high temperature (37.8C or greater); and/or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste (anosmia). A new continuous cough is a new cough that's lasted for an hour; 3 or more episodes of coughing in 24 hours; coughing more than usual. A high temperature is feeling hot to the touch on your chest or back (you don't need to measure your temperature), and/or feeling warm, cold or shivery.

If a child has other symptoms, but not any of the three listed above, parents/carers should make the normal decision they would make in relation to their child's attendance. If the child is not well enough to go to school then the child should remain at home. If the child is well enough to attend school then they should attend.

The Council's Website has been updated with information for parents on this matter.

Advice regarding the congregation of parents/carers at drop off and collection points

Local operating guidance to schools, based on the Scottish Government's National Guidance, asked schools to consider arrangements for drop off and collection times such as staggered start and finish times, and 'Park and Stride' arrangements, where drop off is at a location distanced from the school gates, with pupils walking the last portion of their journey. Prior to the re-opening of schools, parents/carers were advised not to gather at the school gates.

Since schools reopened, a number have voiced concerns about the lack of physical distancing among parents and carers at school gates. The Council wrote to all schools on 19 August, in partnership with local NHS teams, asking them to remind parents and carers that they have a key role in stopping the spread of COVID-19, thereby ensuring that the school can remain open. A poster that can be used at school gates, as a reminder to parents/carers, has been provided. In some instances schools have been asked to review arrangements, in partnership with their parent council.

Enhanced hygiene and cleaning regime

The cleaning regime in schools will change from electrostatic cleaning to twice daily cleaning. This will require additional resources to increase the frequency of cleaning of touch points and desktops in accordance with Scottish Government guidance. In addition, one cleaner will be located in each Secondary Schools during the day.

Alcohol based hand sanitiser will be available in all classrooms. A detergent will be used to clean desks and contact points and this will also be made available to staff for use.

D.5 Recovery of Learning

As previously reported, officers and Headteachers have prepared detailed guidance and plans which make use of the pupil engagement tracking and monitoring information which was gathered and analysed during school closures. These plans, which focus on support for continuity of learning and the curriculum in the recovery phase, and reinforce the importance of literacy, numeracy and wellbeing, are now being implemented in all schools.

All schools are also addressing children and young people's social and emotional needs will be a priority. Children and young people are being provided with additional time and support to re-adjust to the school environment.

Officers and Headteachers will continue to develop digital strategies and plans to ensure future continuity of learning. In particular, schools will have a focus on mitigating any widening of inequalities of outcome experienced by children and young people.

D.6 Additional Cost of Re-Opening and Recovery

The net revenue cost of the plan for the full re-opening schools is estimated to be in the region of £1.1668 million for financial year 2020/21, excluding further additional teaching costs. The costs mainly relate to school cleaning as outlined in the table below:

	£'000
Cleaning	1,377
Property related costs including posters and signage	40
Face masks, hand sanitiser and extra cleaning products in schools	122
Loss of income from School Lets	139
Net Revenue Cost	1,668

The Scottish Government has stated that it will work with councils to address resources issues that they face in reopening schools. Initial investment of £20 million is to be provided to aid logistical challenges in reopening schools and the council's share of this funding is expected to be in the region of £770,000. This is being treated as initial investment, recognising that the additional costs, while likely to be substantial, remain unknown. A further £30 million is also available to meet further costs and will be distributed based on need. This process has still to be identified by Scottish Government. The council will submit a claim to for additional funding from the second tranche to fully cover the net revenue costs from the re-opening of schools.

This position is subject to further monitoring and review. The additional pressures on the council's revenue budget will be managed by the Head of Finance & Property Services in accordance with Financial Regulations and reported to PDSP and Council Executive as part of the budget-monitoring process.

E. CONCLUSION

The Education Executive to asked to note the re-opening of schools and early learning and childcare in line with the Scottish Government National Guidance.

The Education Executive is asked to note key changes to National Guidance and local Operating Guidance which have occurred since the re-opening of schools.

The Education Executive is asked to note the additional costs set out in the report, and that reimbursement of these will be sought from the Scottish Government in line with the decision of the Council Executive at its meeting of 23 June 2020.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-preparing-start-new-school-term-august-2020/>

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-reopening-early-learning-and-childcare-services/>

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-reopening->

school-age-childcare-services/

Contact Persons:-

James Cameron, Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources)
james.cameron@westlothian.gov.uk 01506 281680
Andrew Sneddon, Service Manager – Learning, Policy and Performance
Andrew.sneddon@westlothian.gov.uk 01506 281678

Elaine Cook, Depute Chief Executive

Date of meeting: 8 September 2020