

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES

### SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2008/09 ONWARDS

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1995 the Education and Arts Committee agreed that the calendar dates for school terms and holidays for 1996/97 and subsequent years should be determined administratively in accordance with the following principles:

- i) a start to the school year on the Tuesday after the first Monday in September
- ii) a break of 2 or 2½ weeks at Christmas/ New Year with the Spring Term starting on the first Monday after the New Year Bank Holiday
- iii) a break of 2 weeks split equally either side of Easter weekend
- iv) a school year ending on the third Friday in July
- v) local Election day (and European Election day when this occurs) as holidays for primary schools, unless they wish to and can make other arrangements
- vi) half-term holidays of 5 days in October/ November and mid-February with a facility for schools to determine a small number of additional days to meet their own requirements.

#### **NB: In addition:**

A full Consultation on the School Term & Holiday Dates took place in 2006 with a view to changing the agreed guidelines. However, following this the Executive Members concluded that the consultation had not resulted in clear direction for change.

The formal decisions of the Executive Members are:

1. that the current Bolton pattern be adhered to, with the following exception;
2. that in those years when the Bolton pattern produces a seven week Summer holiday, the pattern be amended so that the Summer holiday would be restricted to six weeks; and that in those years, schools be allocated 5 additional occasional days in lieu;
3. that, given the undesirability of a seven week Summer break, schools are strongly recommended not to attach the additional five occasional days to the start or end of the LA's directed six week Summer holiday.

Details of holiday arrangements are issued by the Authority, and sent to all schools in the borough and to other interested parties on request.

Queries about the holiday pattern, or any matters relating to school holidays should be directed to the Governor Support Unit, Castle Hill Centre, Castleton Street, Bolton, BL2 2JW. Tel: 332114.