

## **Lancashire School Term and Holiday Arrangements from 2016/17**

### **Implications should Lancashire County Council not negotiate and agree the School Term and Holiday Framework from September 2016.**

#### **a) Schools**

The Governing Body would need to negotiate with other local schools, staff, the unions and Dioceses/Church Authorities (as appropriate). Given the freedom to negotiate and set their own patterns, schools in Burnley /Pendle may decide to return to the wake weeks patterns that have been eradicated since the academic year 2005/06.

#### **b) Home to School Transport**

This is a significant concern for the Local Authority should the Framework and control be removed. The view expressed by the Environment Directorate is that without a School Term and Holiday Framework, Lancashire County Council could be looking at a considerable increase in the contractual costs. In negotiating contracts, Environment Directorate take the opportunity to save costs by amalgamating contracts to serve more than one school with one school bus.

Giving schools the total discretion and abandoning the current Framework, could lead to a loss of control and a significant increase in costs if amalgamated contracts were split to reflect the differing demands of schools.

#### **c) Human Resources**

The key issue is the monitoring and compliance of the 190 pupil days and 195 teacher days. Clear guidance would be required regarding how to set out the school term and holidays, taking into account the requirements of the Burgundy book/School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document.

It is an essential requirement that certain breaks are kept. (For example: In all maintained schools the school year must begin after July and is commonly set on the basis of three terms or of six terms.)

#### **d) Catering**

Potentially there would be the following issues in respect of catering:

- Fragmented delivery logistics for suppliers may lead to increased costs of food.
- Increased costs of supply of transported meals from the mother kitchens to receiving schools due to extra staffing costs (as more days would be worked).
- Managers are currently not employed full time and therefore there would be an increase in the cost of operations management to a variety of holiday patterns.

The catering service has commented that since the setting of the Standard School Year, operationally the provision has been more efficient since the holidays were aligned across Lancashire.

**e) School Crossing Patrols**

The school crossing patrols operate on the 190 days as per the school. In situations where one crossing patrol is utilised by more than one school and there are variations in the school holiday patterns, it is inevitable that staffing costs would increase.