

## ISSUES/COMMENTS RECEIVED WEEK ENDING 22-01-2014

### ISSUES

As an A.N.A employed on a part time basis by SBC I would like to know how an asymmetric week will effect my weekly hours. My main concern is I try and work around the school hours so if they change I work a Friday so I would need to get someone to watch 2 children and this is hard enough during school holidays but to be every Friday too could be a problem. I don't have an option to change my days as I work in a holiday park and Fridays are a checking in day.

As working parents, who pay for childcare during the week, this will increase costs as there will be no reduction Monday to Thursday, but an added 2 hours on a Friday.

Childcare. We are a working family who cannot move days/hours around so would have to pay out money for childcare - which might not be available as there is only 1 childminder locally!

1. The impact of a longer school day on younger primary school pupils where tiredness can be an issue already.
2. Extra-curricular activities will be affected because of the later school finish time and the early start time of some activities.

Childcare is very limited as it is (in Chirnside) and cutting the hours for Primary school will affect hours I am available to work even more. The council SERIOUSLY needs to look into this issue as it is likely to affect so many working households. We actually chose to have our children come to school in the borders (from Musselburgh) due to the fact that you did not have half Fridays. I do not see who this would actually benefit, apart from teachers, and feel the answer should be NO.

I work full time, which means Friday afternoon would become a problem. Are the children going to lose out on relevant teaching time of core subjects?

childcare, and my childrens health, think school day is a long enough day for the children.

None as long as Friday is half day

Child care cover for work.

Primary School Children being more tired and less able to concentrate over the longer days.

Our school starts at 8.45 and finishes at 3.00 due to longer lunch time - how will this change to incorporate the shortening of hours

I often work during day on fridays- will have impact on my working arrangements

none

We work! We are both GPs so we cannot just finish early on a Friday as we have to consider the patients. Childcare provision in the Scottish Borders

At this time I don't have any problem with this. We would have people around for childcare on the Friday afternoons.

We have one child in primary school. Our main issue is the impact on extra childcare requirements for Friday afternoon. Whilst the cost is one factor, of greater concern is actually being able to find a provider - good quality childcare is in high demand in Peebles and will be particularly difficult given the large number of people that are likely to be looking for it at the same time if these changes go ahead. An additional issue is the impact on after school activities and whether these will still be able to run, timings etc.

Less teaching time for my children

Additional childcare costs of x 2 hours per week / per child, however this will increase once at Secondary school. As we live rurally we don't have any after school clubs / activities etc like those schools in towns etc can offer!

No issues

As parents of a child in primary 1 who already struggles with tiredness issues, I am very concerned that a longer school day would be counter-productive. When tired my child struggles to concentrate and gets into trouble causing a lack of engagement with school altogether.

I work on a Friday so I will need to find extra childcare on a Friday afternoon. I also think that the school day is long enough for my 5 year old. Increasing the school day is only going to lead to tired, grumpy children which in turn will make life more difficult for teaching staff.

The reason this is being done is not to benefit the children. The reason this is being done is to save money. Although this act may not be overly detrimental to the pupils, it shows a willingness on the council's part to put economics above the needs of our future generation.

It would mean curtailing after school activities as we have to travel a distance to participate and even 10 minutes added on to the end of the day would prevent participation. maybe fine in bigger towns but in smaller schools its a stupid idea.

Child care issues for the short day.

Slightly longer day for youngest pupils may be too long how will this be addressed.

This will effect working families most.

It will cost the average working family at least an extra Â£150 per month.

Borders towns do not have child care facilities to accommodate the extra child care needs on Friday afternoons.

I cannot afford any more child care.

Peebles does not have any childcare facilities to meet the demand. I have checked this. The two nurseries in Peebles do not have enough staff and are small facilities that would not be able to look after any more children. Also there are only 5/6 child minders with space currently.

I believe this could be detrimental to working families and their school aged children.

For the school day to be a few hours shorter every friday the council would need to provide some kind of help with childcare. To expect parents to pay for even more care on top of all the holidays we already have to deal with is unfair, and many will seriously struggle financially.

For those who work full time this is simply not a viable option.

If it goes ahead the school day will be far too long, especially for the younger ones.

After school activities will be pushed back by at least half an hour, homework still has to done, bath and sleep ( which is vital for children to aid learning) Where is the time for relaxing and play?

There will be no time to do extra homework to help your child.

In winter children won't see daylight.

Tired kids don't learn.

Will lunch time be affected?

What will happen to activities that take place at lunch time break.

We are completely against the move to an asymmetric week.

Very young children less able to cope with a longer day mon to thurs. But in general I think childcare will be simpler with the earlier start to the day.

1) cost of childcare on Friday afternoons for working parents.

2) why can the Council afford to give free school meals to all but not pay enough teachers to teach a full week?

The impact of a longer school day on primary pupils, particularly those lower down the school - what has been done to measure whether they will be able to maintain useful focus/concentration/ability to learn for a longer period of time. They already gave periods of 'personal/golden' time built into their day

Linked to the above, I am concerned that the extra 30mins or so a day might just be handed over to 'golden' time rather than useful learning.

1] We should concentrating on campaigning AGAINST the 11m cut in the education budget - Scottish Borders Council should be taking a lead on this rather than meek acceptance.

2] Budgets should be appropriately rural-proofed

3] Scottish Borders will need to ensure seamless and affordable childcare, including necessary transportation, is available throughout the area for the day which finishes at lunchtime.

4] A move to asymmetrical will create obvious problems for working parents, particularly those working a distance away, and may have knock-on effects including house prices and rural depopulation.

The change of hours has no direct impact on me as I work in the evenings so child care is not an issue, although clearly it will be for others.

My main worry is the standard of my children's education. Does this mean losing music and PE teachers etc at primary level? If so I don't see how this can possibly benefit the pupils.

Work issues job centres around school hours 9.15-3.30

Personally, think it is a very good idea.

Issues for other parents who are both working full-time, what will the options be to look after their children on Friday afternoons, without incurring extra personal expenditure.

How is the financial saving made when the hours per week would be the same from a salary perspective?

Is it more to do with saving on school resources required when a school is operational?

Reducing the amount of specialist teaching

Childcare. St Boswells School doesn't have the capacity to offer any sort of wraparound care outwith school hours as it is, going to be more difficult if day is shorter

I have no problem with the 4 long days. On the short day would the children have lunch at school? The example indicates a 1.15pm finish. If this is the finish of lessons, and children are expected to leave school and have lunch once they get home, this would mean many children will not get home until 1.45pm as buses take 30 minutes from the finish time. This is far too late for young primary children, and would lead to poor concentration result in and lower attainment.

Having the short day on the Friday would be the most preferable day. This would keep the school week as one block, rather than having a gap afternoon in the middle. It also allows more flexibility for families for long weekends etc.

My children's school day is already a long day as they get the bus at 7.50am and don't return until 3.15pm.

Child care concerns for working.

The reality of the impact on learning if a half day of potential school work is spread out across four days. Cannot see how this is productive use of time and how it works effectively.

Childcare as we work.

1. There has been no comprehensive communication of how the cost savings will be achieved. If teaching hours are not being reduced will this mean class sizes will increase? I cannot comprehend how altering the timetable will deliver expected savings.

2. There has been no reference to or communication of independent research on whether the proposals will have a detrimental impact on child education.

Both my husband and I work full time and although we manage the children on a daily school week, a Friday afternoon through the winter months would prove impossible for us, as there would be no one available to be their for the children who are in primary school.

The half day & child care provision

How will the asymmetric week effect the quality of my children's education if at all?

My husband and I both work full time, so After School care is vital.

As a working parent it causes a huge amount of problems!

1. Child care costs

2. Child care places available

3. Extra curricular activities are limited due to cost/places.

My main concern is childcare and childcare costs for parents in full time work or education. I would also say a longer day would impair some pupils concentration.

Longer day for younger children what is the feedback from parents and teachers of P1, 2 and 3 in councils with this in place already?  
Where will the savings come from? The primary pupils will have the same teaching hours and as the teachers will still be in on a Friday afternoon can't see any fixed cost savings through shutting the building or the like.  
Are we harming our children's education because we need to make savings?  
Childcare and the effect it will have on my earning capacity.  
Starting the school day earlier and the logistical impact of this.  
If this doesn't have the projected savings where do we go next?

With 1 child currently in P2, 1 child due to start ante pre nursery in August & our 3rd child due in April, as fulltime working parents we have concerns that we will not be able to find childcare flexible enough to pick up & drop off at the numerous & various time through out a 'school/nursery' day. Our private childcare provider (Limelight in Galashiels) has already had to limit the flexibility of the care they provide purely due to the governments introduction of the extended 3h10m day for antepre & pre school children. The councils position on changing a school day in addition to the extended nursery sessions would seriously bring into question our ability as parents to continue to work full time and provide fully for our children.

I'm a single working parent, the impact on myself is finding childcare! It hardly seems feasible working as once I pay childcare I'm in a position where I am worse off financially. The council may save money but all your doing is passing the buck to working parents.

Our kids are already tired enough after school, and extended the school day mon-thurs will mean they will be even more tired, and concentrate less well. This will not be offset by a 'rest' on a friday half day, as we both work on fridays meaning the kids will need to be in childcare all day on friday anyway. This extra childcare requirement will also incur us additional childcare fees, which are already very high. I suspect many parents will struggle to meet this cost.

Childcare arrangements and costs for afternoon of the half day.

On the shorter day for working parents who can't finish at lunch time how would the children be able to get to the nearest town for after school care.

My issues are that am a working mum and have a child in Newcastleton primary school. I feel that this has not been looked at properly >  
How are working people going to work round the new school times. i.e child care on a Friday afternoon. and when my child goes to Hawick high school they are going to have to leave even earlier to get to school and what a waist of time going on a Friday for just 1/2 a day. it is ok for schools in the towns but rural schools like Newcastleton it just will not work.

- 1) Reduced teaching hours are unacceptable and will negatively impact quality of teaching
- 2) We will have to reduce our own work hours or pay more for childcare
- 3) A longer school day for the younger primary school children is unlikely to be productive

I have no immediate issues with the proposal. However living in a rural area, I do worry the children would find it a very long day if they need to get the bus to school.

My issues are the reduction of school teachers, support teachers and classroom assistants that my child and many more rely on, when you have such a large school like Priorsford, the largest primary in the borders the school needs them. what i would also like to find out is where does the missing 80 minutes go by what is written in last weeks Peeblesshire news i dont think anyone should be messing with our childrens education.

As a health care professional I am legally contracted to provide care to patients till 3.30 pm on Fridays  
????!??? Why should working mums have to compromise I thought there is something that prevents discrimination agains working mothers eg school run / sickness

This will benefit only the council and not working parents. I believe this move will have a detrimental effect on working parents and the ability to return or take on employment due to the increase in already expensive childcare.

For working families such as my own, childcare is an issue for the afternoon where there is no school. Firstly this will cost us working families a fortune (especially when one or more child) and secondly there are not enough childcare providers, it is already hard enough to secure a place with a childminder or in a nursery before they get to school! I have issues with the fact that the government are planning giving P1-3 free school meals and nursery children extra hours yet we within SBC are having to give up teachers!!!! It makes no sense to me. I find it hard to believe that SBC can't make the savings by cutting the salaries of senior managers/directors.

Both myself and my husband work. He is full time, I am part-time but work shifts so working week varies. These changes would have an impact on childcare arrangements especially on the Friday. No mention in consultation as to how long lunch breaks would be? The school my children attend starts and finishes early to accommodate those travelling by bus how will this be affected with the new arrangements. Reducing teacher numbers as a cost saving exercise doesn't bode well for the education of our young people!!! Would have to reduce my hours of work, if possible or have to look for a new job.

The impact on the children and on the parents. Longer school days for the children, especially the younger ones. The additional childcare requirements for parents. How does this work with nursery children who have afternoon sessions? Is this still ongoing.

Finishing early on a Friday will cause child care issues plus added cost for said child care. It also means an even earlier start and longer day for those children who have a long bus journey into school.

Happy for the change.

How this impacts another proposed change to increase nursery school hours to 600 per year. How will those children who are given an afternoon nursery place be able to attend for 600 hours per year if the school is shut one afternoon a week?

As a low income family the consequences of having to reduce hours or pay for childcare on the Friday afternoon will have be a significant impact on the family budget. This budget is already extremely tight and any more demand made on it could lead to debt problems.

Also I feel that the effects of a longer day on the health and well being of the primary school pupils could be adversely affected. With a longer day the energy left for after school activities, which can lead to a more well-rounded individual, may be insufficient and lead to the activity being curtailed.

The earlier finish times on the Friday affecting working parents. The need for either reduced working hours or additional costs in childcare.



My main concerns with the asymmetric week for Primary school age children are the following:

1/ Its a long day for small children. We are a family of 5, from August one child will be in P4, one child in P1 and one in Nursery. We walk 20 minutes to and from school every day. As the nursery opening hours are will not be in line with the school - all 4 of us will be leaving at 8:10am - nursery starting at 8:30 and then the older 2 hanging about in the playground or sitting in the car with me for 20 minutes before they get into to school. I have a few concerns with this - will the parent be expected to stand around everyday waiting for school to open,

or will they be supervised in the playground? This also means that before school has even started - the children have been walking and hanging around outside for an hour already.

We will not be home until at least 4pm - this leaving about 1 hour to get 2 sets of homework's completed as well as after school activities.

2/ During the winter months - the children will be leaving home in the morning and coming home after school in darkness. I believe this raises security concerns over older children walking home alone in the dark. I also believe it does not contribute to the children's general well being.

3/ I am extremely concerned about lunch time clubs and after school clubs being affected by the longer working days. These clubs are equally as important as formal school education for all children and particularly children whose parents are not in a financial position to provide these opp

I have a child in P1, and another in the nursery who will move to P1 next year. My concern is that it will be too long a day for them and will result in their not being able to continue with their current extra-curricular activities. It is alarming that at no point during these consultations are the council aiming to do what it is best for primary children - we've heard it is more convenient for teachers and secondary students, but what about the quality of education for primary learners? I feel the needs of primary school children are being sidelined, when the quality of education they receive at this stage that will have a significant impact on their future and attitude to learning. The argument that this has been done in the Lothians for twenty years or that it has been fine for Glenn Rodger's children is inadequate. First, where is the educational research that this is beneficial for the children? Second, we're not in the Lothians - children in rural locations in the Borders can be disadvantaged enough in terms of opportunity and the range of activities and resources available. To limit their opportunities in terms of extra-curricular resources (which would

I would be able to get to work for 9am - it would be a good thing for me/our family.

We are both parents who work full time - this adds to the frustration of as well as starting work later and also then a half day on top.

I don't see how this is really going to be of any benefit, Teachers will still need to be paid for the same number of hours, and they will still have to teach the same number of pupils, how will moving to an asymmetric week have any effect on either of these issues.

Also the maths doesn't work, or at least not if school break times are not affected. At Parkside Primary the school day starts at 8.55 and finishes at 3.15. The new proposals will mean children will be in school for an extra 15 minutes on 4 days, which makes 1 extra hour, yet on a Friday they will be leaving 2 hours earlier, allowing for the extra 5 mins on a Friday morning, that leaves them with 55 minutes less schooling a week.

transport as even longer days for when school transport is provided. Unable to attend after school activities due to longer days and later transport

As I have 2 primary school children I am hugely concerned about childcare after school on a Friday. I work full time and this would require an extra cost to me.

Child care my wife and I work full time we would have to find child care on Fridays

increased cost of childcare - particularly for working families with multiple children.

Increasing length of school day tiring for young children - not conducive to good learning.

With 2 younger children I primary school / nursery my concern is the long days and the impact on their learning. My daughter is currently shattered after a full week at school. Also the impact on after school activities outwith the school which are also important to their development a longer and later day will make them more tired and unable to attend due to the times. I am also worried about the issue of childcare as a family with 2 working parents - and living in an area where there is little childcare (Stow). And another concern is the speed that this is to be implemented - I appreciate the requirement for secondary to be introduced in August but do primary schools need to be when childcare options are not in place

Children of primary school age therefore will either have to pay for childcare on Fridays or not work, either way will lose money.

No childcare provision for Friday afternoon

Unable to afford to reduce hrs to accommodate resulting in financial hardship

After school activities would be badly hit

Finding time for homework harder as a result

Major adjustments required for parents who work.

Teachers are not the only ones who have to juggle busy lives.

I assume school bus times would be appropriately adjusted.

By schools closing at 1.30pm on a Friday this will cause not just us but many parents issues with childcare due to work commitments

I am concerned that younger children making the transition from nursery to P1, and then children in P1-P3 might find the extra length on the day

Getting my child to school on time every day.

Childcare arrangements for a Friday afternoon.

My first issue is the pressure working parents will have to find child care. I know that schools should not be seen as a child care facility but the Government are keen to get parents working again however this move would deter some parents from working.

My concerns would be child care for that proposed afternoon that the children would not be at school. Also how tired would they be fitting extra hours in their and how would this effect their after school activities.

Childcare, having to reduce working hours, the subjects my children might miss out on in primary schools

I have issues around childcare after the half day on a Friday. My concern is that in small towns/villages/rural area there is little capacity for increase in current childcare provision. Although this will not affect my family, I am aware it will have a significant impact on others.

No child care for my 4 school children

My own issues are not a priority., I would work around the new arrangements.

I am concerned about what the impact will be on the learning for especially the younger children. Is there evidence to show that this does not impact on their learning?

I would be interested to know what projected savings are being shown to reduce the costs of reducing the Fridays. How are schools to be monitored to ensure that staffing costs are reduced and that the Fri afternoons are used for training. How will this be implemented and monitored?

What are the total cost reductions to the Council for carrying this out., without such information it is difficult to make informed choices.

Lack of information to parents ie. the children have been told about this before the parents. Lots of heresay rather than the actual information does not provide a good basis for a consultation.

Will there still be a lunch break on the Friday? If this is the case then the possibility of further reductions in costs have been missed. Surely extra learning time would be more beneficial.

Many parents will struggle for childcare on Friday afternoons especially in rural areas where resources are limited . equally don't want kids pushed into clubs when they put in longer days . Difficult for secondary rural pupils too who already leave before 8am and don't return home until 4.45 .

An even longer day will be hard to cope with .

Childcare on the Friday afternoon. My daughter is at a small rural school and there is currently no after school childcare within a 6 mile radius. As it is I struggle for the hour after school that I need. I imagine the region might put in place active school classes on a Friday afternoon to accomodate children of working parents however these are always in larger towns and I have no way of getting my child there while I'm at work.

I am a teacher so have concerns with regards working conditions. Is this change going to mean longer working hours? Currently we have twilight training sessions/meetings so I imagine these will now be on a Friday afternoon (this could be a good thing as we will not be so tired and therefore will be more productive) However these sessions have a time limit so will not take up every Friday afternoon. Will teachers be expected to be in school every Friday afternoon even so? If they are then this is an increase in working hours and not acceptable.

I am also concerned about how tired pupils and staff will be after a 7 period day. The last few periods will be a struggle for some pupils and this could lead to an increase in discipline problems. Teachers are really stretched as it is trying to implement CfE (while I understand the reason

The longer day will make extra curricular activities later and so impossible to fit in the school day. Younger children in particular will be too tired to do extra activities.

P1s are already exhausted by 3.00. They are not going to be able to concentrate for longer just because the school day is. This will not benefit their education.

Childcare for Friday afternoons is also a problem.

Additional child care costs due to working on a friday pm while children will not be in school

School and nursery class opening hours will be different meaning either multiple pick ups or nursery child not able to attend full sessions

what would be the impact on CASSC after school hours, equally would the proposed change impact on the breakfast club?

Childcare and pick up on a Friday. The 11 million saving seems to be being recouped by passing some of the cost onto parents in the form of pa

I work when schools are finished; currently 3.45-9.30pm. However, I want to see my son when schools are finished and have pushed it back to 4.30pm start. I will hardly see him if this change is implemented.

The idea that children will be able to share courses between schools is not realistic.

It is very difficult for parents to fit child care around school times and work; an earlier start is not helpful, neither is finishing early on a Friday.

Childcare will be a problem, it will require extra looking after of children on a Friday costing more expense, children will also have to be up earlier in the morning.

1. Don't want new hours to affect extra curricular activities in the school - e.g. Judo
2. Nursery Drop off/pick up alignment
3. Don't wish to see a reduction in subjects e.g. PE, music
4. Child care - others above are more important for us

Finishing early on a Friday has major implications on childcare and finding suitable cover for the hours from 1.15pm. This also adds on additional household costs which at a time of rising prices is an additional burden.

If the change to the week means more learning time for teachers on the Friday afternoon does this mean that the number of in-service training days will drop?

I have 2 children in primary school. Both myself and my husband work full time in jobs where there is no flexibility in our working hours. Both children already go to an afterschool club, and if they had to go from lunchtime 1 day per week, this would cost me an additional Â£35 or so per week.

Ensuring pupils receive the same teaching provision within the asymmetric week

The new 1/2 day on Friday's means pressure on parents to provide childcare when they are working. It does not seem worth the change for an e transport for the short day? my children live in a rural area with a primary then secondary school pick up, how will this be done if all schools finish at same time?

childcare issue for the short day?

truancy

My partner and I both work full time and any change to the school week would bring about substantial difficulties with regard to childcare. We currently rely on family to support with the current school week and I feel it would be too much to ask for them to contribute more time to provide us with free childcare.

Also after consulting with my 12 year old daughter she feel she would not want to stay in school later Mon-Thur.

I do not have childcare issues as my son is nearly 15 years old. I do not understand how SBC expect to save money with this change.

EG in Primary Schools the visiting teachers like PE and music will still visit so what are the class teachers expected to do while their class is with the other teacher when ricct etc is to be taken on a Friday afternoon?

I am concerned that the change will affect the time given to extra curricular activities both at lunchtimes and after school. Both my daughters have been involved in music, sports and DofE and these have greatly enhanced their education.

primary concerns relate to child care arrangements as many parents have working patterns and employees that will not flex to this proposal. how and to what extent is this government backed and what advice or legislation is going to be pushed through to ensure that parents are able to maintain a safe environment for their children without considerable extra expense? How will and what are plans to support teachers who support extra curricular activity which adds so much to the welfare and development of children?

#### Childcare

Lack of extra curricular activities

Disgruntled teachers receiving more workload and change

Previous consultation resulted in overwhelming rejection of proposal. Issues remain the same. Impact on childcare, extra-curricular activities if lunchtime shortened. Disadvantage to more rural pupils as undoubtedly Friday pm will be used for activities. Free school meals and potential stigmatisation as many kids will not have school lunch on Fridays (indeed if they are available)

Child care on Friday afternoons would mean I would need to reduce my working hours. Longer, more tiring hours for the pupils.

- . At the moment our children are in S3 and have chosen 10 subjects. S4 means dropping 2. Will this new week mean dropping more than 2
- . we feel with are already guinea pigs for the new C for Ex and here we are again guinea pigs for this.
- . Can we have the honest pros and cons please so that its easily digested.
- . Will this mean more pressure on children and teachers
- . Will this affect out of school activities organised by school e.g hockey

1) This will cause significant childcare issues for Friday afternoons. This may result in my wife or I having to reduce work hours and pay to accommodate this. This is far from ideal in the current climate. This could even ultimately lead to one of us losing our job if our employer is not willing to accommodate a request to reduce hours.

2) Galashiels Academy already starts the school day earlier than some other schools. Will this involve an even earlier start - if so this will be difficult for the kids to adjust.

3) A later finish in the afternoons will make it more difficult for out-of-school activities to be pursued, especially in view of the huge amounts of homework currently handed out by teachers

The biggest issue is childcare. Most parents have to work, and for single parents in particular the fact that kids will be out of school early on Friday is likely to present substantial problems.

My issues are childcare on the Friday afternoons. If children are released from school earlier, i will need to make sure my children are cared for while i work, increasing costs while my pay stay the same. I am extremely worried about the reduction in teachers. I am already paying for extra private tuition for my eldest child - who is improving rapidly. This support is unavailable in the High School, but he is obviously benefiting from private education.

None

I am very concerned about the reduction in time for lunchtime activities in all schools. At Peebles High, there is a huge array of different activities for pupils to be involved in at lunchtimes and these are bound to be affected by the asymmetric week. We would also lose one lunchtime altogether if the Friday became a half day. In the music department, for example, we currently run the following: girls' choir, chamber choir, guitar group, jazz group, concert band, string orchestra, senior orchestra, brass group, show choir, ceilidh band, saxophone group and flute group. Almost all of these groups rehearse at lunchtimes. Each year we have very successful spring and Christmas concerts, along with various other performing opportunities. I cannot over-emphasise the importance of these activities to pupils' well-being, musical and general development. To reduce the lunchtime length and lose a Friday would have a serious detrimental effect on the opportunities available for pupils. The same impact would be felt in PE too. A shorter lunchtime would mean fewer pupils going down into town for food (not necessarily a bad thing) but more attempting to eat in the school canteen where there just isn't the capacity for more pupils - we are already serving pupils in 2 sittings.

length of the school day for younger pupils  
motivation of teaching staff for development work on a Friday afternoon  
will children stay in school for lunch on a Friday?  
will this affect dining room staff?

with both parents working full time where are our children supposed to go with an early school finish on a Friday pm-also what consideration has been given to their return to the country by service 'bus and at what time will this run-who will pay for this service?

My son has to get the bus to school, I heard that they tried to bring the same idea in, in another Authority but the bus companies refused to change their contracts.

1. That if we are reducing teacher number we must be sacrificing standards and that this will affect pupil attainment. 2. Fewer teachers will lead to larger class sizes in primary and sec schools 3. The calculations using the new start and finish times you propose will, in fact, result in a reduction of hours in school for pupils. 4. Teachers will be off-loading a lot more pwork onto sec pupils to do at home, but they will have shorter hours in which to do it. Also practical subjects cannot be compensated for at home e.g. practicals for science subjects.

No issues it's a great idea



None I think it's a great idea. Will give children a chance for sporting activities in daylight hours during winter and an extended weekend .

Children should have 5 full days at school to prepare them for adult life- working full time- you rarely get a job working 4 1/2 days  
At present, I work part time. If this change comes in to place, I would find it difficult to be home in time for my youngest child finishing at the lunch time if this is what is being proposed. We live in Ancrum where there is no after school club, nearest one is in Jedburgh. Fine if you have transport, if not you then have to rely on buses. Which throws up all sorts of extra problems.

Any change is going to cause some concerns but I do not feel this change will be in any way negative to pupil time and if it benefits staff training :

I do not have any concerns

I don't think the Council has given much thought to parents who work a normal working week. I appreciate this is a money saving exercise by the Council, but I like most working parents will be losing money at a time when I cannot afford to, as my childcare fees for my two children in primary school will go right up. Further, my 13 year old daughter at high school is too old for childcare but I don't want her at home by herself all Friday afternoon, so what am I to do?

Furthermore my 5 year old would find Mon-Thurs long school days and I doubt for most kids at primary, that concentration levels will be too good after 3pm. So kids and parents will lose out. Plus most of those at high school will be just hanging round the streets on a Friday afternoon.

I feel that an asymmetric week would be detrimental to my children as they already come home tired after a long day at school so how would they feel with an even longer day? I don't see any advantages in it at all and I'm totally against it.

Child care on Friday afternoons

Like many people we are working parents and the new school week would make it harder for us especially on the half day on the Friday for picking up a youngest child

working hours are based with children being in school 5 days, this would affect my working hours and also childcare for my children if changes were to take place

Child Care costs

Working Parents - job implications

Looking for work - restriction on available hours

Impact on children thinking they won't need to work on a Friday afternoon

Impact on education - shorter hours on Friday

Length of travel time for rural schools

Longer hours on some days especially for younger children

Increase in time at home for some children who have issues at home will increase stress for them

Lack of childcare

Working full time

Single parent

I have no issues at all with the new timetable

None I think it is a great idea especially if the children actually get the opportunity to study at other schools within different subjects.

Due to current full time employment commitments, our main issue would be trying to arrange childcare for a Friday afternoon.

Children finishing early one day per week when I am still at work. No one at home to look after them while still at work. At the moment my work fits around my childrens' school hours.

I would have an issue trying to source childcare in the Scottish Borders on a Friday afternoon.

I believe that the four longer days may have an affect on teaching and learning as concentration levels fall towards the end of a longer school day.

What will happen with part-time teachers?

I am 0.4 and work a Thursday/Friday, would this affect my job share and my working days?

I am very concerned about this!

Childcare is a big issue! I have three children in school and would need to pay childcare for three children every Friday!

Lack of childcare/ after school clubs in the borders.

Lack of public transport in rural areas.

How will this work for working parents? Will SBC allow its employees to finish early on Friday as well?

More "latch key" kids being left home alone - already quite common in the borders

I am a single parent who works 9am til 2.30 to fit in with current school hours. There is no available childcare in my village and i have no family n

Would support if gave longer lunch hours for clubs.

Where will kids go on a Friday afternoon?

I live in the country - how will I get home on Friday lunchtime?

If the Asymmetric week comes into place, I want to be able to take only 3 subjects. I chose my course in compliance with this. I will not be taking 4 subjects!

The 3 periods (all 50 minutes long) between break and lunch would be quite strenuous for most pupils especially those taking highers and adv. highers. Also, the reduced lunch hours would make it more difficult for pupils to go for lunch and return to school in time. The canteen does not have space to accomodate the entire school population for lunch, and quite frankly the food is overpriced and not good quality.

Please don't do this! I do lots of clubs at lunch-times and if lunch-times are made shorter then I won't be able to go to them and enjoy myself. Also, I get up early in the mornings and I don't want to have to get up even earlier. Also, if I get homework for the next day then how am I supposed to do it if I have less time to do it in the evenings? This could really affect my learning and my life FOR THE WORSE! Perhaps the teaching week will become more pressurised and noncontact time will then be used as inservice time rather than as vital preparation/correction time.

I am concerned about the reduction in teaching staff when it's already been squeezed. Will the quality of teaching be reduced?....

More Course Choice for pupils in secondary ?!

I work part time and currently have a Friday at home to look after my daughter. I would be concerned about the pupil free afternoon being on a Friday as I would not want to miss out on essential staff training though I would also not be happy to come in 4/5 Friday afternoons as this would negate the whole point of having a day off. Would it be possible for the half day to be a Wednesday as I believe many job shares have this as their cross over point anyway meaning more staff could attend meetings/training with less disruption?

There are some childcare issues. However, I am a principal teacher and I believe the benefits to this change outweigh any issues.

Primary pupils already tired by 3pm let alone asking them to work another 35 minutes.  
Having to work even later after school to prepare and mark thus seeing even less of family.

Consistency and standards of education. Making changes to benefit pupils not just to save money.

There are very few issues for me. This is nothing new. The Director mentioned at the presentation that pupils on free school meals would need to be catered for on the shortened day. Do what North and South Lanarkshire do: lunch is around 11.20, the pupils return to class at 12.10. The last period of the day runs from 12.10 until 13.00.

I have no real concerns about the a-symmetric week as it will create greater opportunities for staff development across the authority, and will open up more opportunities for inter-school sporting events without the PE staff having to give up all their Saturdays (Note, I am not a PE teacher). Only one minor operational issue relates to the structure of the 4 longer days and making sure that the students' morning sessions are not too long, given how early many students leave home in the morning - would not want them waiting until well after 1 pm for their lunch. I have no issues or concerns concerned regarding what will happen to pupils on the shorter days. Can the pupils get home or are after school clubs/activities going to be expected/required

I am concerned that 3 periods without breaks is a long time for pupils to be able to focus and concentrate fully on work

I do not see exactly how having all teachers on maximum time will save money - with any absence (which will likely be higher with the increasing stress levels) supply will have to be bought in

Further reduction in teacher numbers

Undeliverable benefits, eg aligned timetables making greater choice of courses available, greater collaboration between teachers in different schools and sectors as there is actually little left of a Friday afternoon once the pupils leave and staff have lunch, infrastructure does not exist to deliver "e-learning", activities for pupils do not exist as they do in the cities

I feel that secondary schools are fine to do this, but for nursery pupils and young primary school pupils their day is long enough.

I would imagine that this will mean earlier starts or finishes or both, for a working parent not a great help. Then there is the half day you are talking about who is looking after the kids till I come home from work then. Plus longer days at school for the kids.

I understand there are some educational advantages moving to an asymmetric week but I have some questions and concerns. The main question is not changing the school week but the resource cuts that will be made to schools over the next 5 years. It is unclear how the funding cuts will affect schools and pupils and I'm sure that many people would rather increase the amount of council tax that they pay, than for some of the cuts to take place. Or, why is money being put into funding extra nursery hours - I would much rather this money go into school education. In any case, I hope that parents are informed of what cuts are planned prior to them being implemented. My son is due to start primary school in August 2014. Luckily I don't have childcare issues at the moment, but I am concerned it will be quite a long day for the younger children. Also, I am concerned about what will happen for lunch on the half day as well as how school clubs will be affected. I'd prefer for the half day to be on a Friday.

Start time of 8.50 is too early for us as we work in edinburgh. We would need a breakfast club for our daughter.

No major issues which I can think of at present.

My eldest child is due to start primary 1 in August 2014 and I am concerned that the day will be too long for him. Parents of slightly older children have told me that even the existing day lengths can be very challenging for the youngest children. I am now considering deferring my son's start at primary school (he is a January birthday) because the day length may be too much for him, even although academically he is certainly ready to start this year.

I also have a daughter due to start afternoon nursery sessions in January 2015. If the school is operating on an assymmetric week and the nursery is not, then the drop off and collection times on a Friday are incompatible. I would have a long wait in the playground from 12.20 dropping off for nursery and 1.15 collecting from school. In preference, I would choose not to take my daughter to nursery on a Friday afternoon.

Lastly, I am concerned about the effect of the longer days on lunchtime and after school activities which are currently on offer to children within

**COMMENTS****RESPONDENT**

school support staff - SBC

Only benefit I can see is that the children can have there allocated teacher teaching them for more of the week instead of only having them 2 days a week.

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

Cannot see benefits especially for working families!

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

Who really wants this? The only reason for this move seems to be a cost cutting exercise. I don't see how it will benefit either school children or teachers.

parent/carer - primary school

Otherwise as long as school educational time does not change- am quite supportive.

I Hope this would mean that admin time given to principal teachers could be taken in that time as we are a very small school - Lilliesleaf and this could mean that the principal has even less teaching time with our kids. As my children are in a p3, 4, 5 composite a day away would mean that as the principal teacher has less time to meet the challenges of facing a triple composite class and actually to get to know my children asymmetric week is a good idea if it saves on time staff spend outside of classroom, will also help with pupils doing extra curricular stuff and makes available working time longer for parents making childcare easier.

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

We would like full details of the consultation process as by your literature it appears you have made the decision already. What are your solutions for working parents

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

I cannot see any benefits in the primary school sector by moving to asymmetric week.

parent/carer - primary school

Would prefer it

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

I don't really see how the compression of the teaching hours helps to cut teacher numbers. Surely the same number of teachers would be needed to cover classes unless there were other changes, e.g., decrease in number of classes with a concomitant increase in class size.

parent/carer - primary school

It makes no sense that extra hours are being offered at nursery (which, in my opinion is completely unnecessary), and SBC want to change to an asymmetric week to save money and cut teaching staff. Where is the logic?! Leave things as they are!

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

Ridiculous idea for parent who have to commute to Edinburgh - they would just arrive and have to turn around and have to come home again. Not a good advert for the commuter zone for Edinburgh.

parent/carer - primary school

If the time is used effectively there may be many benefits. Is thi

parent/carer - primary school

This is a short sighted solution to funding issues which will effect working families the most.

There are no benefits to my family. It will result in me having to ask my employer to reduce my hours. Even if they agree it will mean less income for me and the children. We already struggle financially because my pay has been frozen.

I am also concerned that everyone in education is discussing this as if the decision had already been made.

parent/carer - primary school

This is a short sighted solution. it may save the school money from their budget but will cause other issues in the borders that the local authority will have to absorb.

The asymmetric week works in Edinburgh because they have adequate childcare facilities. Will the local authority provide child care for working families on a Friday afternoon? Or do they expect parents to give up work?

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

Don't see any benefits. Why give out free school lunches when you use that money elsewhere?

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school



As above - please concentrate on fighting budget cuts and ensuring education is adequately funded!

parent/carer - primary school

I do see a benefit in longer school days, especially for working parents.

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

Financial savings.

Longer rest / weekend times for family and personal enhancement outside the school environment.

Opportunity for clubs, community supported events, entertainment, sport and out of school activities with less pressure.

Children will likely perform better with more time at home and space for integration of weekly work load.

More social time with friends and family, time for homework, time for relaxing and discovering for self through living in real-

parent/carer - primary school

More flexibilities for families, as the children have time to calm before the weekend

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

What about vulnerable children where school is a safe haven for them? Or those impoverished children where school is a place for them to have a warm meal and somewhere warm to stay as well as benefit from the obvious learning on offer? What are the impacts for those children? If there are budget cuts then surely the teachers should be the last thing to be cut not the first as an easy way to save money. I do not see any genuine benefits to moving to an asymmetric week as I believe the consequences are too negative.  
appaled.

parent/carer - primary school  
parent/carer - primary school

I cannot perceive any tangible benefits from acceptance of the proposal.  
this move, but surely there is other more manageable solutions to this problem.

parent/carer - primary school  
parent/carer - primary school

I would have to renegotiate my contract with work

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

I see no benefit to the children! It's only the council etc that benefit in saving money. Every time a change is implemented the children suffer. The added length to each day has a huge effect on attention span! As for those kids travelling on a school bus the added time is huge.

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

I cannot see any benefit to our children. Our oldest child participates in a small number of after school groups (swimming, gymnastics & Beavers) but is already at his limit for what he can achieve before tiredness peaks. I would not want him to miss out on important extra curricular activities because he is too tired following an extended school day 4 days a week.

parent/carer - primary school  
parent/carer - primary school

I see no benefits! A longer day for primary children just seems c  
I understand it is a good way to save money and prefer it to some of the other options!  
I also think a Friday afternoon off school would allow children socialising time which is in short supply after school when you factor in the amount of homework!

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

Primary Schools to be included to allow savings regarding transportation alignment?

Benefit from better liaison between secondary/primary

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

On the short day would this include lunch?  
I can see that you have in place meetings in all other areas but can not see any time table for a meeting at Newcastleton!!!!!! I think you should be looking at having a meeting with Newcastleton people las I feel we are just being forgot about. Can I also say I bet the diction has already been made and this is just a way of keeping us sweet. Just like the October holiday issue 1 week or 2 .

parent/carer - primary school

No benefits to asymmetric week

Reducing teacher numbers to save money is a worrying precedent and opens the door to further cuts in teaching provision, with the consequent impact on reduced quality of teaching.

Using Edinburgh and the Loathians as an example of a 'successfully' implemented asymmetric week does not allay our concerns. Midlothian has some of the worst secondary school destination performance in the UK. Of course one can't attribute this to the asymmetric week, but one would barely use it as a shining example of education excellence.

parent/carer - primary school

I can see no benefits or pitfalls to the proposal, but I would like to know how it would work for a rural school that currently starts at 8:40am and finishes at 2:55pm. I would like to have more information of the proposal and how it would be implemented.

parent/carer - primary school

We are a full time working family can you tell me what do we do with our child on a friday after 1.15? We have not had a wage rise for 6 years so we definately cant afford child care and NO iam not going to rely on friends to look after my son and NO i cant afford to go part-time.

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

This is a terrible idea unless you are willing to provide supplemented childcare on the early closure on a Friday. Completely no consideration given to family who are already struggling with childcare costs.

My husband and I both work full time and pay out Â£170 per week childcare, this increases to Â£270 per week over holiday periods and public holidays. Meaning again this will go up due to the after school care being increased. (3yr old and 8yr old)

parent/carer - primary school

I do not see any benefits in moving to an asymmetric week for the children. The younger children, especially in P1 are already very tired with the length of the day at school without making it any longer. It is even worse for those who get transport to school. The 4 'long days' you mention will be ridiculously long for those children.

parent/carer - primary school

If the teachers utilise the time on the Friday for planning, multi agency working and developing the curriculum for excellence then everyone may be singing from the same page instead of it being disjointed.

It standardises the school week instead of their being so many differences across the region.

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

Does this reduce the number of in-service days for teachers. How will it reduce the number of teaching posts required?

The children would have a longer "weekend" but what about working parents and the cost of childcare.

parent/carer - primary school

At present the school day starts at 9am and finishes at 3.15, with the new times it seems the children would spend half an hour less at school. Does this mean they are going to be bringing yet more work home with them?

parent/carer - primary school

Would allow children to undertake activities on a Friday afternoon potentially giving more family time at the weekends.

parent/carer - primary school

Whilst the move to an asymmetric week would not currently impact childcare provisions for us personally, this may well do so in the future, unless local employers can be sympathetic and flexible with part time working hours.

parent/carer - primary school

I have less concern for secondary school as long as provision were made for an area in the school, on the Friday afternoon, to allow the children whose parent were working to self study in a safe environment.

parent/carer - primary school

Where has the plan been put in place previously and what is the feedback? Not just from teachers but parents and carers as well. Has there been any investigation of children's learning ability on the extended days?

Also why is my child coming home from school saying that teachers are saying it is going to happen? If that is the case what is the point of the feedback?

parent/carer - primary school

After attending all the public consultations on both nursery and primary /secondary school changes and after due discussion and consultation with family and friends - I feel for the most part that secondary school pupils would benefit from the asymmetric week. I also feel that to change the primary school and nursery to an asymmetric week is not beneficial or in the best interests of the children in the borders.

parent/carer - primary school

I am also concerned that parents will not be consulted about future cuts.

parent/carer - primary school

As above -I would be able to get to work for 9am - it would be a good thing for me/our family.

parent/carer - primary school

this makes no difference for families where only one or neither parent works, very difficult for working families.

parent/carer - primary school

I can see no benefit to parents, only more hassle in the mornings to get the children out of the door earlier and more childcare costs on a friday afternoon.

If you want to save money, turn down the heating the class rooms are far too hot for most children, and what is the point on parents spending money on school sweatshirts when they aren't worn most of the tiem due to the extreme classroom tempretures.

parent/carer - primary school

For working parents the issues of additional child care on a Friday afternoon

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school  
parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

The council may save Â£500,000 by moving the primaries' to an parent/carer - primary school no-one can afford to kiss goodbye to an afternoons wages. It is clear the only Winners in this are the teachers who would stand to gain a long weekend every weekend.

parent/carer - primary school

I assume this would mean our children would not lose as much parent/carer - primary school  
By starting earlier albeit by ten minutes, many children will strug parent/carer - primary school  
However, despite my concern about the longer day, I actually think it is better for the children to have a half day once a week.  
I would like to raise a question that if possible, I would like an answer to which is this... If one of the benefits to having this new timetable is to share learning with other schools, could this be extended to parents who wish to partially home school their children ie, shared education?

parent/carer - primary school

parent/carer - primary school

I'm fairly certain this is a 'done deal' - does the Council have any plans to reduce the class teaching time to 22.5hrs to make significant savings?

parent/carer - primary school, school support - SBC

parent/carer - primary school, school support - SBC

Just a thought.....it might be easier for the working parents of the Scottish Borders to find childcare on a day of the week other than a Friday. If the short day was e.g. Wednesday, it might be easier for teaching staff to use that time for meetings, training, marking, preparation. Choosing a Friday as the short day looks like reducing the school week to suit teachers/school staff (give them a half day). Mid week short day for parents might be the day to get homework done!

parent/carer - primary school, school support - SBC

parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school

parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school

In my working day I finish at 3 o'clock so Friday is a major problem

Longer weekends for the children may well be beneficial and a better break from them away from school work.

parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school



parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, I am a teacher currently employed in Scottish Borders

This change is being brought about to save money. Although potentially meetings, planning and collaboration between teachers could take place on a Friday afternoon, it can not all happen then, for example teachers will still be out of school for courses on other days and part-time staff are not suddenly going to be there on a Friday.

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, I am a teacher currently employed in Scottish Borders

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, I am a teacher currently employed in Scottish Borders

it may be difficult for the arrangement of child care on Friday sif both parents are working full time

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, I am an employer operating in Scottish Borders

I am not supportive of this move. Its an obvious but flawed way to cut costs. Please try to be a bit more creative and inventive and think a bit harder about how you could achieve your targets. Dont follow other regions, do something different!

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, I am an employer operating in Scottish Borders

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, I am an employer operating in Scottish Borders, Othe

There is no Benefits.

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, Other

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, Other

The start of 8.50 is a better one than expected as an 8.30am start would be just too early and make for a difficult afternoon session for both teachers and pupils at both primary and secondary levels.

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, Other

The benefit of an asymmetric week, if I understand this correctly, would be that there would no longer be a need for in-service days throughout the school year, so children would get more education time.

I am a parent/carer of a child in primary school, Other

If this offers up savings with the same or better delivery of teaching then this can only be a good idea

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

be used for Matches instead of Saturday mornings? Could an after school homework club be started on Friday afternoons,

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

the only benefit is to those who do not work!

future working life to include "I can't work Friday afternoons?" added to interview answers.

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

I feel that the tight timescale with regard to implementation gives the impression that this proposal has already been decided upon.

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

Other difficulties include how to cover childcare on a Friday afternoon for working parents.

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

will there be a reduction/ removal of inservice days as it is noted that a primary reason for the move is to allow for greater consultation - one of the reasons for inservice days. Again these prove to be a position where parents and employees suffer through the effects of manipulation of the calendar.

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school  
I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

. Is this a move just to save money and dressed up as having advantages. Can you please set out the honest pros and cons. It is a disgrace that cost-cutting is given higher priority than the education of my children and all other children in the region as well as ignoring the current pressures on most parents to work more, not less, hours.

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

It is also deeply disturbing that SBC continues to pursue this idea despite the recent trial in Berwickshire being far from successful.

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

I see no benefits from this move.

Teachers could have reduced holidays (like the rest of the working population) and perhaps forego, for example, half-term holidays to do professional development, co-ordination etc.

I am a parent/carer of a child in secondary school

I do not see any benefits in the cut backs or the pressure being placed on staff in the education sector. Out of School Care Clubs are struggling because of the legislation placed on them and the qualification of staff required to run them. As someone who lives in a rural area, i feel the council is working against me. The Borders is not the City of Edinburgh!

parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school - school support staff - SBC

None

parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school

Whilst I see the benefits of having a 33 period week in secondary school  
parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school  
parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school

parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school

as an employer my staff arrange their working hours with  
their employer to suit school working days-am I to lose their  
service at 1pm every Friday? Have any of you thought of this?  
This will result in a loss of wages

parent/carer of a child in primary & secondary school

parent/carer - secondary school, employer in Scottish Borders

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

I think it's a fantastic idea it would give the pupils an extra  
afternoon out with the weekend activities to enjoy a hobby  
study free time etc as a parent I would love it we could do so  
many things I think the pupils would rather have slightly longer  
days and a half day on a Friday it's a great idea I hope it goes  
ahead

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

Wonderful idea for pupils gives them an extra afternoon I think  
the negative responses will be from parents who work but I  
think it's much better for the pupils

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

Childcare could be a problem

parent/carer - primary & secondary school  
parent/carer - primary & secondary school

Personally I don't really see any benefit for my children. It just se

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

No other comments.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school  
parent/carer - primary & secondary school

No benefits to kids or parents.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

I am happy for the schools to finish early on a Friday as long as the rest of the week stays the same.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

Having never experienced an asymmetric week it is difficult to compare the pros and cons.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

I think it should just stay as it is now because children need to learn that when they go out to work for example there are very rarely any half days working.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

at present I am aware that there are morning and afternoon nursery sessions, how would this work if there is no fifth afternoon available?

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

The only benefit I can see is for teachers finishing early on a Friday.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

I dont see any difference they will still be doing the same amount of school time and so if doing it this way will help cut costs then really it should be done silly not to in my eyes longer weekend with my children with more chances of weekend travel. And it is only one more long day than what they are currently doing and that is working out well since this changed in August 2013.  
I would rather pay a little bit more per month on my council tax than pay for childcare on a weekly basis.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

As above.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school - school support staff - SBC

A good opportunity for curriculum development and collegiate working.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school - teacher - SBC

parent/carer - primary & secondary school - teacher - SBC

I cannot see any benefits to an asymmetric week!

Completed survey with a senior class and most said it would allow more time for them to play on games consoles or watch T.V.!

parent/carer - primary & secondary school - teacher - SBC

opening hours to accomodate working parents and get the economy moving not restricting them. What about breakfast clubs, after school care, wraparound care?This is a backwards step.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school

Are the council going to ensure there are adequate childcare services available if this change comes in.

parent/carer - primary & secondary school - other - SBC

Shouldn't be driven by money but by what is best fr teaching kids

I am a school student

I am a school student

The only benefits would be the half days on Fridays

I am a school student

I am a school student

It could work well.

teacher - SBC

The early finish on a Friday seems beneficial, but having it used for staff training/meetings etc seems a shame. In the school I teach in, we are not taking time out of the teaching day to have meetings or training, it happens after the school day or in lunch times.

teacher - SBC

Given the geographical spread of the Borders region and the need to save money by reducing teacher numbers ( and thus courses on offer), I do not believe that this is a sound reason for changing and it will not be achievable

teacher - SBC

teacher - SBC

The opportunities for more joined up working, and training delivered at more 'receptive' times is a very positive step.

teacher - SBC

Don't see how changing the week saves any money as same number of teachers still needed.

Need clarification on how money is saved by this change. Imagine like everyone else that the decision will already be made and consultation is a tick box exercise which will not be taken account of.

teacher - SBC

The issue should be to get a school structure that is common to all schools in terms of curriculum. At the moment all schools are different in their timings of course choices and time tabling. The council has ignored this and this is having a huge affect on standards.

teacher - SBC



I would ask why any presentation I have heard has focused on the Friday as the shortened day. It probably doesn't matter except the Borders is very good at playing and promoting rugby. It might open the opportunity to vary the opposition if we aligned ourselves with the private schools for sporting fixtures (usually Wednesdays for them). I am aware that, being a teacher, this will not be an early start to the weekend for staff but it may be seen by some as just that. I am for this proposal to move to 33 periods and moving it away from a

teacher - SBC

teacher - SBC

teacher - SBC

teacher - SBC

No real benefits for pupils or schools

teacher - SBC

Other

If its not broken don't try and fix it.

Other

Other

Teachers would have to be paid more to work an extra half day a week. Has this been taken into account?

Other

Luckily I already have a friday pm off work as I work condensed hours but if I wasn't able to it would affect my employment.

Other

Benefits as presented, regarding savings in rationalising teaching staff.

Other

I accept that money needs to be saved somehow but it is vital to consider whether young children are capable of learning as effectively during longer school days.

Other

























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