

## **Organisation of school time in Europe**

Primary and general secondary education

2010/11 school year

# AUSTRIA

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	6 September 2010: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 13 September 2010: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg	6 September 2010: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 13 September 2010: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg
<b>End of students' school year</b>	1 July 2011: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 8 July 2011: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg	1 July 2011: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 8 July 2011: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 25 – 30 October 2010 Salzburg und Vorarlberg *)	1 week 25 – 30 October 2010 Salzburg und Vorarlberg *)
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 6 January 2011	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 6 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week 7 – 12 February 2011: Niederösterreich, Wien 14 – 19 February 2011: Burgenland, Kärnten, Salzburg, Tirol, Vorarlberg 21 – 26 February 2011: Oberösterreich, Steiermark	1 week 7 – 12 February 2011: Niederösterreich, Wien 14 – 19 February 2011: Burgenland, Kärnten, Salzburg, Tirol, Vorarlberg 21 – 26 February 2011: Oberösterreich, Steiermark
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	1 week 16 – 26 April 2011	1 week 16 – 26 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	4 days 11 – 14 June 2011	4 days 11 – 14 June 2011
<b>Summer</b>	About 9 weeks 2 July – 3 September 2011 Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 9 July – 10 September 2011 Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg	About 9 weeks 2 July – 3 September 2011 Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 9 July – 10 September 2011 Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	26 October 2010 1 November 2010 2 November 2010 8 December 2010 2 June 2011 23 June 2011 1 extra religious holiday (Saint – different in each <i>Land</i> )	26 October 2010 1 November 2010 2 November 2010 8 December 2010 2 June 2011 23 June 2011 1 extra religious holiday (Saint – different in each <i>Land</i> )
<b>Starting/End date of teachers' school year</b>	The teachers' school year is the same as the pupils' school year	The teachers' school year is the same as the pupils' school year

\*) The autumn holidays in Salzburg and Vorarlberg are decreed by the educational authority of the two *Länder*. To enable these holidays, Easter and third term holidays are shortened in these two *Länder*.

## BELGIUM (FLEMISH COMMUNITY)

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 1 – 7 November 2010	1 week 1 – 7 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 27 December 2010 – 9 January 2011	2 weeks 27 December 2010 – 9 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week 7 – 13 March 2011	1 week 7 – 13 March 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 11 – 25 April 2011	2 weeks 11 – 25 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2011	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	4 days 11 November 2010 2-3 June 2011 12 June 2011	4 days 11 November 2010 2-3 June 2011 12 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011

Source: Eurydice.

## BELGIUM (FRENCH COMMUNITY)

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 1 – 5 November 2010	1 week 1 – 5 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 27 December 2010 – 7 January 2011	2 weeks 27 December 2010 – 7 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week 7 – 11 March 2011	1 week 7 – 11 March 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 11 – 22 April 2011	2 weeks 11 – 22 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	–	–
<b>Summer</b>	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2011	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	6 days 27 September 2010 11 November 2010 12 November 2010 25 April 2011 2 June 2011 13 June 2011	6 days 27 September 2010 11 November 2010 12 November 2010 25 April 2011 2 June 2011 13 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011

Source: Eurydice

## BELGIUM (GERMAN-SPEAKING COMMUNITY)

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	30 June 2010	30 June 2010
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 1 – 5 November 2010	1 week 1 – 5 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 27 December 2010 – 7 January 2011	2 weeks 27 December 2010 – 7 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week 7 – 11 March 2011	1 week 7 – 11 March 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 11 – 24 April 2010	2 weeks 11 – 24 April 2010
<b>Third term</b>	–	–
<b>Summer</b>	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2011	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	6 days 11 November 2010 15 November 2010 24 December 2010 2 June 2011 13 June 2011 + 1 day (see additional notes)	6 days 11 November 2010 15 November 2010 24 December 2010 2 June 2011 13 June 2011 + 1 day (see additional notes)
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

- During the last working days of August, secondary education teachers may be consigned to conduct exams of a second chance.
- A school year has a min. of 180 and a max. of 184 days of schooldays, for 2010/11, the number of days will be 180.
- As the 1 November is a religious holiday (*Allerheiligen* – All Saints' Day) and at the same time autumn vacation, it is left to the school to choose a compensation day.

## BULGARIA

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	15 September 2010 (official date)	15 September 2011 (official date)
<b>End of students' school year</b>	Grade I: 23 May 2011 Grade II – IV: 31 May 2011 Grade V - VIII: 15 June 2011 Grade VIII*: 30 June 2011	Grade VIII*: 30 June 2011 Grade IX, X, XI : 30 June 2011 Grade XII: 11 May 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	28 October 2010 – 1 November 2010 (Grade I)	-
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	24 December 2010 – 2 January 2011	24 December 2010 – 3 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	29 January 2011 – 31 January 2011	29 January 2011 – 31 January 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	30 March 2011 – 10 April 2011	30 March 2011 – 10 April 2011 (till Grade XI) 30 March 2011 – 03 April 2011 (Grade XII)
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Grade I:</b> 21 May 2011– 15 September 2011  <b>Grade II – IV:</b> 31 May – 15 September 2011  <b>Grade V – VIII:</b> 15 June – 15 September 2011  <b>Grade VIII*:</b> 30 June – 15 September 2011	<b>Grade IX – XI:</b> 30 June – 15 September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	1 November 2010  25 May 2011 (The official celebrations on the occasion of the Day of Slavonic literature and culture)	1 November 2010  25 May 2011 (The official celebrations on the occasion of the Day of Slavonic literature and culture)
<b>Other non school days</b>	17 May 2011 State Graduation Exam in Bulgarian Language and Literature  19 May 2011 Second State Graduation Exam	17 May 2011 State Graduation Exam in Bulgarian Language and Literature  19 May 2011 Second State Graduation Exam
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	See Additional Notes	See Additional Notes
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	See Additional Notes	See Additional Notes

Source: Eurydice

## BULGARIA (CONTINUED)

---

### **Additional notes:**

**Grade VIII\*** (18 study weeks) is made up of students who have been admitted, after completed VII grade, to secondary schools after successfully passing admission exams. During this year they take intensive foreign language classes, the number of which prevails significantly in comparison with the number of classes assigned to the rest of the studied at this school level, subjects.

**Teachers' school year:** The length of the teachers' school year is defined not at central level. The decision with this regard is left to the schools' own discretion. The school head is responsible for setting and drawing up of their school's timetable. The most common situation is when the teachers, on employment contract, are required to be present and at disposal at school at the beginning of September so that they can get prepared well in advance and deal with the school documentation for the new school year.

The end of the teachers' school year is also determined at school level, if the teachers are needed to be at school in order to help, complete or close the school documentation, or if they are involved in other out-of-class activities, school projects, initiatives, etc., they usually are supposed to stay extra days after the beginning of the summer holiday period for pupils.

## CYPRUS

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	9 September 2010	10 September 2010 (see additional notes)
<b>End of students' school year</b>	15 June 2011	(see additional notes)
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	-	-
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 23 December 2010 – 6 January 2011	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 6 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	-	-
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 18 April – 1 May 2011	2 weeks 18 April – 1 May 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	11 weeks 16 June – 7 September 2011	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	1 October 2010 28 October 2010 13 November 2010 30 January 2011 7 March 2011 25 March 2011 1 April 2011 2 June 2011 11 June 2011 13 June 2011	1 October 2010 28 October 2010 13 November 2010 30 January 2011 7 March 2011 25 March 2011 1 April 2011 2 June 2011 11 June 2011 13 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	6 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	17 June 2011	30 June 2011

Source: Eurydice.

Additional notes:

#### **Secondary Education**

Classes may begin on any day during the first ten days of September, the exact date in each year is defined by the Minister of Education and Culture. For the Lower Secondary Education classes may end on any day during the first ten days of June, and for the Upper Secondary Education during the last ten days of May. The exact date is again defined by the Minister.

For the General secondary education, the end of the school year comes at the end of June and includes exams, correction of papers, result announcements.

## CYPRUS (CONTINUED)

---

### **Teachers**

The official school year is longer for teachers in both primary and secondary education as it includes registration days, sorting out of schools and classes and exam periods.

In primary and secondary general education according to the law, the official school year is from 1 September 2010 until the 31 August 2011.

Teachers however, need to be at school from the 1 September 2010 until the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2011 for school work for secondary education and from the 06 September 2010 until the 17th of June 2011 for primary education.

## CZECH REPUBLIC

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	2 days 27 and 29 October 2010	2 days 27 and 29 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	23 December 2010 – 2 January 2011	23 December 2010 – 2 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 day 4 February 2011	1 day 4 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	1 week between 7 February and 20 March 2011 depending on the region  2 days 21 and 22 April 2011	1 week between 7 February and 20 March 2011 depending on the region  2 days 21 and 22 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	–	–
<b>Summer</b>	1 July – 31 August 2011	1 July – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	28 September 2010  28 October 2010  17 November 2010  25 April 2011	28 September 2010  28 October 2010  17 November 2010  25 April 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	Not specified	Not specified
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	Not specified	Not specified

## CZECH REPUBLIC (CONTINUED)

SPECIFICATION OF TERMS FOR SPRING HOLIDAYS	
Term 2011	Regions
07 – 13 February	Praha 6 až 10, Cheb, Karlovy Vary, Sokolov, Nymburk, Jindřichův Hradec, Litoměřice, Děčín, Přerov, Frýdek-Místek
14 – 20 February	Kroměříž, Uherské Hradiště, Vsetín, Zlín, Praha-východ, Praha-západ, Mělník, Rakovník, Plzeň-město, Plzeň-sever, Plzeň-jih, Hradec Králové, Teplice, Nový Jičín
21 – 27. February	Česká Lípa, Jablonec nad Nisou, Liberec, Semily, Havlíčkův Brod, Jihlava, Pelhřimov, Třebíč, Žďár nad Sázavou, Kladno, Kolín, Kutná Hora, Písek, Náchod, Bruntál
28 February – 6 March	Mladá Boleslav, Příbram, Tábor, Prachatice, Strakonice, Ústí nad Labem, Chomutov, Most, Jičín, Rychnov nad Kněžnou, Olomouc, Šumperk, Opava, Jeseník
07 – 13 March	Benešov, Beroun, Rokycany, České Budějovice, Český Krumlov, Klatovy, Trutnov, Pardubice, Chrudim, Svitavy, Ústí nad Orlicí, Ostrava-město
14 – 20 March	Praha 1 až 5, Blansko, Brno-město, Brno-venkov, Břeclav, Hodonín, Vyškov, Znojmo, Domažlice, Tachov, Louny, Prostějov, Karviná

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

According to the Labour Code, the holidays for **teachers** at primary or secondary level is 8 weeks each calendar year. They take it primarily in the time of school holidays.

## DENMARK

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary and lower secondary education (<i>Folkeskole</i>)</b>	<b>General secondary education (<i>Gymnasium</i>)</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	10 August 2010	16 August 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	25 June 2011	25 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	16 – 24 October 2010	16 – 24 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	18 December 2010 – 2 January 2011	18 December 2010 – 2 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	12 – 20 February 2011	19 – 26 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	16 – 24 April 2011	16 – 24 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	25 June – 9 August 2011	25 June – 10 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	20 May 2011 2 June 2011 11 – 13 June 2011	20 May 2011 2 June 2011 11 – 13 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	Not determined at central level – differs at the various schools/institutions. In general the teachers start a few days before the pupils/students.	Not determined at central level – differs at the various schools/institutions. In general the teachers start a few days before the pupils/students.
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	Not determined at central level. Usually the teachers' school year follows that of the pupils/students.	Not determined at central level. Usually the teachers' school year follows that of the pupils/students.

Source: Eurydice.

### **Additional notes:**

The abovementioned dates for the *Folkeskole* are a sample from the municipality of Aarhus, as the dates vary slightly on a national scale. E.g. the winter/carnival holiday thus depends on the municipality which usually decides whether the holiday is in week 7 or 8. The dates for upper secondary education are taken from Køge Gymnasium.

*Folkeskole*, that is schools offering comprehensive primary and lower secondary education are at liberty to decide on the number of holidays and their distribution, given that they offer a minimum of 200 school days each year. The Ministry of Education determines the last day of the school year, which is the case for both primary, lower secondary and general upper secondary education. In addition, the Ministry may also issue guidelines regarding the distribution of holidays.

## ESTONIA

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	31 August 2011	31 August 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 23 – 31 October 2010	1 week 23 – 31 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 9 January 2011	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 9 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	-	-
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	1 week 19 – 27 March 2011	1 week 19 – 27 March 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	12 ½ weeks 4 June – 31 August 2011	12 ½ weeks 4 June – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	2 days 24 February 2011 22 April 2011	2 days 24 February 2011 22 April 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	The beginning and the end of a teacher's school year depend on the individual school and teacher. According to the legislation, teachers have 56 days (8 weeks) of vacation. Generally, they go on vacation in the middle of June and are back in the middle of August.	
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>		

Source: Eurydice

#### **Additional notes:**

The Basic Schools and Upper Secondary Schools Act stipulates that an academic year shall start on 1 September and a study period shall include not less than 175 days of study (35 weeks). School holidays (and accordingly the end of the school year) are determined by a regulation of the Minister of Education for every school year.

## FINLAND

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	Between 10 and 17 August 2010	Between 10 and 17 August 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	4 June 2011	4 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	2-7 days in October 2010	2-7 days in October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	1-2 weeks between 18 December 2010 and 9 January 2011	1-2 weeks between 18 December 2010 and 9 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week between 21 February and 13 March 2011	1 week between 21 February and 13 March 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	4 days between 22 and 25 April 2011	4 days between 22 and 25 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	10-11 weeks between 4 June to mid-August 2011	10-11 weeks between 4 June to mid-August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	6 January 2011 (Epiphany) 2 June 2011 (Ascension day)	6 January 2011 (Epiphany) 2 June 2011 (Ascension day)
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	Between 8 and 15 August 2010 <sup>(1)</sup>	Between 8 and 15 August 2010 <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	4 June 2011	4 June 2011

Source: Eurydice

**Additional notes:**

Independence day, Epiphany and 1 May are deducted from the total number of school days (190 days) if they are on any weekday other than Saturday. In the school year 2010/11 the number of school days will consequently be 189.

<sup>(1)</sup> There are no exact starting and ending dates of teachers' school year because their duties are regulated according to the collective agreement for teachers. In the agreement the parties have agreed that the teachers have a calculatory holiday, which begins in mid-June and the length of holiday depends mainly on years in occupation. In practice teachers' holidays coincide with the pupils' holidays. However, teachers have their planning and INSET obligations, which they have to do during both during the school year and outside the school year.

## FRANCE

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	2 September 2010	2 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	2 July 2011	2 July 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 ½ week 23 October – 4 November 2010	1 ½ week 23 October – 4 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 18 December 2010 – 3 January 2011	2 weeks 18 December 2010 – 3 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	2 weeks 26 February – 14 March 2011 (zone A) 19 February – 7 March 2011 (zone B) 12 – 28 February 2011 (zone C)	2 weeks 26 February – 14 March 2011 (zone A) 19 February – 7 March 2011 (zone B) 12 – 28 February 2011 (zone C)
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 23 April – 9 May 2011 (zone A) 16 April – 2 May 2011 (zone B) 9 – 26 April 2011 (zone C)	2 weeks 23 April – 9 May 2011 (zone A) 16 April – 2 May 2011 (zone B) 9 – 26 April 2011 (zone C)
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	9 weeks 2 July – 5 September 2011	9 weeks 2 July – 5 September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	The following dates are regarded as public holidays by all institutions: 1 November 2010 11 November 2010 25 April 2011 2 June 2011 13 June 2011	The following dates are regarded as public holidays by all institutions: 1 November 2010 11 November 2010 25 April 2011 2 June 2011 13 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	2 July 2011	2 July 2011

Source: Eurydice

**Additional notes:**

**Zone A:** Caen, Clermont-Ferrand, Grenoble, Lyon, Montpellier, Nancy-Metz, Nantes, Rennes, Toulouse  
**Zone B:** Aix-Marseille, Amiens, Besançon, Dijon, Lille, Limoges, Nice, Orléans-Tours, Poitiers, Reims, Rouen, Strasbourg  
**Zone C:** Bordeaux, Créteil, Paris, Versailles

## GERMANY

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year

<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 August 2010 beginning of the official school year <i>(for details see table I)</i>
<b>End of students' school year</b>	31 July 2011 end of the official school year <i>(for details see table I)</i>
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	4 to 13 days staggered between 4 October and 6 November 2010 <i>(for details see table II)</i>
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	8 to 17 days staggered between 20 December 2010 and 8 January 2011 <i>(for details see table II)</i>
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	0 to 13 days staggered between 31 January and 12 March 2011 <i>(for details see table II)</i>
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	5 to 14 days staggered between 7 March and 30 April 2011 <i>(for details see table II)</i>
<b>Third term</b>	0 to 11 days staggered between 26 April and 29 June 2011 <i>(for details see table II)</i>
<b>Summer</b>	6 weeks staggered between 24 June and 12 September 2011 <i>(for details see table I)</i>
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	3 October 2010 (German Unity Day) 2 June 2011 (Ascension Day) 13 June 2011 (Whit Monday) + holidays depending on the <i>Land</i>
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 August 2010 (official date)
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	31 July 2011 (official date)

Source: Eurydice

## GERMANY (CONTINUED)

**TABLE I: Specification for starting/end of students' school year and summer holidays**

	<b>Beginning of students' school year 2010/11</b>	<b>End of students' school year 2010/11</b>	<b>Summer holidays 2011</b>
Saarland	16 August 2010	23 June 2011	24 June – 5 August
Hessen, Rheinland-Pfalz	16 August 2010	25 June 2011	27 June – 5 August
Hamburg	19 August 2010	29 June 2011	30 June – 10 August
Berlin	23 August 2010	29 June 2011	30 June – 12 August
Brandenburg	23 August 2010	29 June 2011	30 June – 13 August
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Schleswig-Holstein	23 August 2010	2 July 2011	4 July – 13 August
Bremen, Niedersachsen	5 August 2010	6 July 2011	7 July – 17 August
Thüringen	5 August 2010	9 July 2011	11 July – 19 August
Sachsen	9 August 2010	9 July 2011	11 July – 19 August
Sachsen-Anhalt	5 August 2010	9 July 2011	11 July – 24 August
Nordrhein-Westfalen	30 August 2010	23 July 2011	25 July – 6 September
Baden-Württemberg	13 September 2010	27 July 2011	28 July – 10 September
Bayern	14 September 2010	29 July 2011	30 July – 12 September

## GERMANY (CONTINUED)

**TABLE II: Specification of shorter holiday periods**

Land	Autumn 2010	Christmas / New Year 2010/11	Winter 2011	Spring / Easter 2011	3 <sup>rd</sup> term 2011
Baden-Württemberg	2 Nov.-6 Nov.	23 Dec.-8 Jan.	-	26 April-30 April	14 June-25 June
Bayern	2 Nov.-5 Nov.	24 Dec.-7 Jan.	7 March-11 March	18 April-30 April	14 June-25 June
Berlin	11 Oct.-23 Oct.	23 Dec.-1 Jan.	31 Jan.-5 Feb.	18 April-30 April	3 June 29 June
Brandenburg	11 Oct.- 23 Oct.	23 Dec.-1 Jan.	31 Jan.-5 Feb.	20 April-30 April	3 June
Bremen	9 Oct.-23 Oct.	22 Dec.-5 Jan.	31 Jan.-1 Feb.	16 April-30 April	14 June
Hamburg	4 Oct.-15 Oct.	23 Dec.-3 Jan.	31 January	7 March-18 March	26 April-29 April 3 June
Hessen	11 Oct.-22 Oct.	20 Dec.-7 Jan.	-	18 April-30 April	-
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	18 Oct.-23 Oct.	23 Dec.-31 Dec.	7 Febr.-19 Feb.	16 April-27 April	10 June-14 June
Niedersachsen	9 Oct.-23 Oct.	22 Dec.-5 Jan.	31 Jan.-1 Feb.	16 April-30 April	3 June 14 June
Nordrhein-Westfalen	11 Oct.-23 Oct.	24 Dec.-8 Jan.	-	18 April-30 April	-
Rheinland-Pfalz	11 Oct.-22 Oct.	23 Dec.-07 Jan.	-	18 April-29 April	-
Saarland	11 Oct.-23 Oct.	20 Dec.-31 Dec.	7 March-12 March	18 April-30 April	-
Sachsen	4 Oct.-16 Oct.	23 Dec.-1 Jan.	12 Febr.-26 Feb.	22 April-30 April	3 June
Sachsen-Anhalt	18 Oct.-23 Oct.	22 Dec.-5 Jan.	5 Febr.-12 Feb.	18 April-27 April	14 June-18 June
Schleswig-Holstein	11 Oct.-23 Oct.	23 Dec.-7 Jan.	-	15 April-30 April	3 June-4 June
Thüringen	9 Oct.-23 Oct.	23 Dec.-31 Dec.	31 Jan.-5 Feb.	18 April-30 April	11 June-14 June

Source: Eurydice

**Additional notes:**

In accordance with the *Hamburg Agreement* between the *Länder* on harmonisation in the school system, the school year begins on 1 August and ends on 31 July. The actual beginning and end depend on the dates of the summer holidays which vary from one year to the other.

## GREECE

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	13 September 2010	13 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	15 June 2011	The date in question (usually around the 20 May) is subject to annual arrangement both for the lower and the upper education
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	-	-
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 7 January 2011	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 7 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>		
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 18 April – 2 May 2011	2 weeks 18 April – 2 May 2011
<b>Third term</b>		
<b>Summer</b>	± 12 weeks 16 June – 10 September 2011	± 10 weeks 1 July – 10 September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	5 national/religious holidays 28 October 2010 17 November 2010 7 March 2011 25 March 2011 13 June 2011 and some regional holidays	5 national/religious holidays 28 October 2010 17 November 2010 7 March 2011 25 March 2011 13 June 2011 and some regional holidays
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	22 June 2011	1 July 2011

Source: Eurydice

#### Additional notes:

Official School Year: 1 September 2010 to 31 August 2011

Didactic Year: 13 September 2010 to 15 June 2011 (Primary Education)

13 September 2010 to 30 June 2011 (Secondary Education)

# HUNGARY

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	15 June 2011	15 June 2011 (29 April 2011 in the final upper secondary grade)
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	<i>9 days including 2 weekends and 1 public holiday</i> 30 October – 7 November 2010	<i>9 days including 2 weekends and 1 public holiday</i> 30 October – 7 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	<i>12 days incl. 2 weekends</i> 22 December 2010 – 2 January 2011	<i>12 days incl. 2 weekends</i> 22 December 2010 – 2 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>		
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	<i>6 days incl. one weekend</i> 21 – 26 April 2011	<i>6 days incl. one weekend</i> 21 – 26 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	<i>11 weeks in total</i> 16 June – 31 August 2011	<i>11 weeks</i> 16 June – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	<i>1 day</i> 13 June 2011 (Whit Monday)	<i>1 day</i> 13 June 2011 (Whit Monday)
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	Autonomy of the educational institution takes into account the concerning legal provision*	Autonomy of the educational institution takes into account the concerning legal provision*
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	Autonomy of the educational institution takes into account the concerning legal provision*	Autonomy of the educational institution takes into account the concerning legal provision*

Source: Eurydice

## HUNGARY (CONTINUED)

---

**Additional notes:**

According to the Act on Public Education, the minister responsible for education shall specify the schedule of the academic year and teaching (the schedule of the academic year) in a ministerial decree. Article 52 of the Act stipulates that the school term-time or the academic year commences on the first working day of September every year and concludes on 15 June every year or on the working day which precedes 15<sup>th</sup> June if it is not a working day. The school, while leaving the first and last school day of the academic year unchanged, may give further holidays (5 days in primary and 6 days in secondary education) to the pupils or may change the beginning and end date of the preset school holidays over the school year.

School holidays at schools teaching, using any of the languages of national or ethnic minorities of Hungary as the language of instruction, may differ from the above described school holidays to celebrate nationality traditions. (Source: Decree No. 22/2010 (V. 13.) of the Minister of Education and Culture on the organization of school year of 2010/2011).

\* Act No. XXXIII. of 1992 on the legal status of public servants and the Governmental Decree No. 138/1992 the enacting clause of the above act stipulate that the free days of teachers (46 days) primarily have to be given during the summer holiday. If then not all days can be taken, the rest has to be provided during the autumn, winter or spring holidays. (For teachers the autumn, winter and spring holidays are workdays without teaching). Furthermore teachers have 5 days off at their disposal that they can take during the school year by their choice.

## ICELAND

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary and lower secondary education</b>	<b>General upper secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	Between 23 and 31 August 2010	Between 23 and 27 August 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	Between 28 May and 3 June 2011	Between 20 and 27 May 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	0-2 days in October 2010	0-2 days in October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 20 December 2010 – 3 January 2011	2 weeks 21 December 2010 – 3 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	0-5 days in February 2011	0-5 days in February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	7 days 18 – 26 April 2011	7 days 18 – 26 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	11 weeks Between 7 June and 20 August 2011	13 weeks Between 25 May and 19 August 2010
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	2 days 2 June 2011 13 June 2011	2 days 2 June 2011 13 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	Between 18 and 25 August 2010	Between 19 and 25 August 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	Between 3 and 9 June 2011	Between 24 and 31 May 2011

Source: Eurydice

### **Additional notes:**

According to teachers wage contracts compulsory school teachers shall work in schools 4 days before the beginning of the school year and 4 days after the formal end of the school year. Upper secondary school teachers have a total of 4 working days before the beginning and/or the end of the school year.

## IRELAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	First week of September 2010 <sup>(1)</sup>	Circa 30 August 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	End of June 2011 <sup>(2)</sup>	End of State Examinations in June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 25 – 29 October 2010	1 week 25 – 29 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 7 January 2011	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 7 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	2 days 21 and 22 February 2011 <sup>(3)</sup> <b>or</b> 24 and 25 February 2011 <sup>(3)</sup>	1 week 21 – 25 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 18 – 29 April 2011	2 weeks 18 – 29 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	About 10 weeks End of June until week of 1 September 2011	About 13 weeks June, July and most of August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	17 March 2011 2 May 2011 6 June 2011 and some religious holidays	17 March 2011 2 May 2011 6 June 2011 and some religious holidays
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	31 August 2011	31 August 2011

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

#### Primary Education

<sup>1</sup> In order to meet the overall requirement of 183 days at primary level, the school year will normally commence in the week that the 1<sup>st</sup> September falls. The exact date is determined locally at Board of Management level.

<sup>2</sup> School may use their own discretion to determine the precise ending of the school year in June, providing it has met the overall requirement of 183 days.

<sup>3</sup> Primary school may use 3 discretionary days to extend their Winter/Carnival break to an alternative option of a 5 day break.

Circular 0107/2007 sets out the standardized school breaks at primary level for the school years 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11.

## IRELAND (CONTINUED)

---

The arrangements for standardized closure at primary level (Circular 0107/2007) are agreed without prejudice to closure on specific days, within the overall requirement of 183 days at primary level, dictated by religious observance that is required in schools under patronage of different denominations or faiths. In the absence of an adequate number of discretionary days a school authority may choose to utilize a religious observation day for non-tuition purpose when planning the school year.

The existing arrangements for school breaks may provide some limited flexibility to schools on certain other days outside of the defined periods. The scheduling of such days must not be used to extend or modify the period set out above in respect of mid-term, Christmas and Easter breaks save where religious observance requirements of a school under a particular patronage makes this necessary.

It was not a requirement of this agreement that the commencement or end of the school year either at primary or post primary level should be standardized.

### **General Secondary**

In accordance with Circular M29/95, the minimum number of teaching days per post-primary school will be 167. In addition, in accordance with Circular 0107/2007, holiday periods during the school year have been standardized, i.e. midterm breaks, Christmas and Easter holidays. Traditionally, formal instruction ends in post-primary schools on the Friday preceding the June bank holiday weekend. State examinations normally commence the following Wednesday. In order for schools to meet their requirement to be open for 167 days during 2010/11 school year, it is expected that post-primary schools will be open circa 30 August 2010.

The above holidays are standardized in accordance with Circular 0107/2007. The school year at post-primary level is very tight and doesn't allow for any additional holidays, as schools must comply with the minimum number of 167 days. In fact, in recent years, since the standardized school calendar, many schools which would have traditionally opened on 1 September are now opening in late August in order to meet their full complement of days. There is more flexibility at primary school level, as they are not restricted by the end of year State exams.

## ITALY

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	Between 9 and 20 September 2010	Between 9 and 20 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	Between 8 and 16 June 2011	Between 8 and 16 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	-	-
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks Between 22/24 December 2010 and 6/9 January 2011	2 weeks Between 22/24 December 2010 and 6/9 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 to 5 days Generally in February/March, depending on the regions	1 to 5 days Generally in February/March, depending on the regions
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	5 to 10 days Between 18/21 April and 23/30 April 2011, depending on the regions	5 to 10 days Between 18/21 April and 23/30 April 2011, depending on the regions
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	12 – 13 weeks Between June and September 2011	12 – 13 weeks Between June and September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	5 national holidays 1 November 2010 8 December 2010 25 April 2011 1 May 2011 2 June 2011 and Saints' days, depending on the regions	5 national holidays 1 November 2010 8 December 2010 25 April 2011 1 May 2011 2 June 2011 and Saints' days, depending on the regions
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	31 August 2011	31 August 2011

Source: Eurydice

## ITALY (CONTINUED)

Specification of terms for the beginning and the end of the school year 2010/11		
Primary and General secondary education		
	Beginning 2010	End 2011
Abruzzo	20 September	11 June
Alto Adige (Bolzano)	13 September	16 June
Basilicata	16 September	11 June
Calabria	13 September	11 June
Campania	15 September	11 June
Emilia-Romagna	14 September	11 June
Friuli-Venezia Giulia	13 September	11 June
Lazio	13 September	11 June
Liguria	20 September	15 June
Lombardia	13 September	11 June
Marche	16 September	8 June
Molise	13 September	11 June
Piemonte	13 September	11 June
Puglia	20 September	8 June
Sardegna	15 September	10 June
Sicilia	16 September	11 June
Toscana	15 September	11 June
Trentino (Trento)	9 September	11 June
Umbria	13 September	11 June
Valle d'Aosta	13 September	11 June
Veneto	13 September	9 June

### Additional notes:

Schools can adjust the school calendar, established by the Regions, to the POF's requirements (the POF is the basic document of the cultural and planning identity of each school. It defines the curricular, extra-curricular, educational and organisational projects of each school). Schools can organise in a flexible way the overall timetable for the curriculum and for any single subject even on the basis of multi-week planning, provided that lessons spread over a minimum of five days per week and that the prescribed annual, pluriennial or cycle number of hours for the single subjects is complied with. Generally speaking, the school year begins between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> week of September and finishes between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of June. The school adaptations of the school time should guarantee at least 200 days of lesson in the school year.

According to school autonomy, schools have up to 5 or 6 days available, which are foreseen for the suspension of educational activities.

## LATVIA

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	31 May 2011	31 May 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 25 – 29 October 2010	1 week 25 – 29 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 5 January 2011	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 5 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	-	-
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	1 week 21 – 25 March 2011	1 week 21 – 25 March 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	13 weeks 1 June – 31 August 2011	13 weeks 1 June – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	4 public holidays 18 November 2010 22 April 2011 25 April 2011 4 May 2011	4 public holidays 18 November 2010 22 April 2011 25 April 2011 4 May 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	See additional notes	See additional notes
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	See additional notes	See additional notes

Source: Eurydice

#### Additional notes:

Lower secondary education (Basic education): end of the school year for the 9<sup>th</sup> class: 10 June 2011.

Upper secondary education: end of the school year for the 12<sup>th</sup> class: 17 June 2011.

The school year is divided in two semesters: the first from 1 September to 23 December 2010 and the second from 6 January to 31 May 2010 (or 10 June for the 9<sup>th</sup> class and 17 June for the 12<sup>th</sup> class).

Extension of the school year for classes 1-8 and 10-11 may be made if specific circumstances hindering education process arise during the school year (e.g. extreme temperature, strike, emergency situation in school, etc.).

**Holidays (summer 2010):** These are the dates for the official summer holiday period for classes 1-8 and 10-11. For the 1<sup>st</sup> class, education institutions decide on additional holidays of 1 week in the second semester (usually before Easter).

**Public holidays:** When the specific holidays of November 18 and May 4 fall on Saturday or Sunday, the holiday is transferred to the next working day.

**Teachers:** The teachers' school year concurs fully with students' year, but normally is longer and starts earlier, though the end and the start date is not defined officially. Teachers have the right to receive 8 weeks of paid annual leave in summer.

## LIECHTENSTEIN

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	17 August 2010	17 August 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	1 July 2011	1 July 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	2 weeks 4 – 17 October 2010	2 weeks 4 – 17 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 9 January 2011	2 weeks 24 December 2010 – 9 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week 7 – 13 February 2011	1 week 7 – 13 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 21 April (from noon) – 8 May 2011	2 weeks 21 April (from noon) – 8 May 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	6 weeks 4 July – 16 August 2011	6 weeks 4 July – 16 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	8 September 2010 1 November 2010 8 December 2010 2 February 2011 2-3 June 2011 13 June 2011 23-24 June 2011	8 September 2010 1 November 2010 8 December 2010 2 February 2011 2-3 June 2011 13 June 2011 23-24 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	17 August 2010	17 August 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	1 July 2011	1 July 2011

Source: Eurydice

# LITHUANIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	31 May 2010	10 June 2010
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 25 – 31 October 2010	1 week 25 – 29 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 20 December 2010 – 2 January 2011	2 weeks 23 December 2010 – 5 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	-	-
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	1 week 18 April – 24 April 2011	1 week 18 April – 22 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	13 weeks 1 June – 31 August 2011	11 weeks 13 June – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	1 November 2010 16 February 2011 11 March 2011	1 November 2010 16 February 2011 11 March 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	following the general teaching plans and subject to the agreement of the school head and teacher	following the general teaching plans and subject to the agreement of the school head and teacher
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	following the general teaching plans and subject to the agreement of the school head and teacher	following the general teaching plans and subject to the agreement of the school head and teacher

Source: Eurydice

## Additional notes:

The end of students' school year in grade 5 (first year of lower secondary education), grade 10 (last year of lower secondary education), and grade 12 (last year of upper secondary education) is on 31 May.

Additional 2-week school holidays (twice in the year) are allocated to pupils of grades 1 to 5. The recommended time for pupils of grades 1-4 is: 3 January 2011 – 9 January 2011 and 21 February 2011 – 27 February 2011; for pupils of grade 5: 22 November 2010 – 26 November 2010 and 21 February 2011 – 25 February 2011. Subject to the school council's approval, additional school holidays may be allocated at another time.

Summer holidays for students in grade 5 start on 1 June 2011.

The annual amount of leave for **teachers** is legislated as 56 calendar days. Normally, it is recommended that teachers take their annual leave during school summer holidays (i.e. teachers' leave is normally determined by the school calendar)

## LUXEMBOURG

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	15 September 2010	15 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	15 July 2011	15 July 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 30 October – 7 November 2010	1 week 30 October – 7 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 18 December 2010 – 2 January 2011	2 weeks 18 December 2010 – 2 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week 19 February – 27 February 2011	1 week 19 February – 27 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 9 April– 25 April 2011	2 week 9 April – 25 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	1 week 28 May – 5 June 2011	1 week 28 May – 5 June 2011
<b>Summer</b>	8 weeks 16 July – 14 September 2011	8 weeks 16 July – 14 September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	4 days 2 June 2011 13 & 14 June 2011 23 June 2011	4 days 2 June 2011 13 & 14 June 2011 23 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	15 September 2010	15 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	15 July 2011	15 July 2011

Source: Eurydice.

## MALTA

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	27 September 2010	27 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	28 June 2011	28 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 – 3 November 2010	1 – 3 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	23 December 2010 - 6 January 2011	23 December 2010 - 6 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	7 – 8 March 2011	7 – 8 March 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	20 – 27 April 2011	20 – 27 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>		
<b>Summer</b>	29 June – 23 September 2011	29 June – 23 September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	21 September 2010 8 December 2010 13 December 2010 10 February 2011 31 March 2011 7 June 2011 29 June 2011	21 September 2010 8 December 2010 13 December 2010 10 February 2011 31 March 2011 7 June 2011 29 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	23 September 2010	23 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	11 July 2011	11 July 2011

Source: Eurydice

### **Additional notes:**

During June, schools are on half-days.

Half-yearly Examinations take place between 8 and 18 February 2011 for secondary school students and between 15 and 17 February 2011 for primary school pupils.

The Annual Examinations take place between 13 and 28 June 2011 for secondary school students and between 22 and 24 June 2011 for primary school pupils.

On 17, 20 and 22 September 2010 and on 7, 8 and 11 July 2011 teachers attend in-service courses.

Dates for summer holidays are indicated for students. Teachers start their holidays later and start the school year earlier than students.

## THE NETHERLANDS

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	Northern region: 23 August 2010 Central region: 16 August 2010 Southern region: 6 September 2010	Northern region: 29 August 2010 Central region: 23 August 2010 Southern region: 6 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	Northern region: 22 July 2011 Central region: 1 July 2011 Southern region: 8 July 2011	Northern region: 16 July 2011 Central region: 1 July 2011 Southern region: 8 July 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	Central and Southern region: 16 – 24 October 2010 Northern region: 23 – 31 October 2010	Central and Southern region: 16 – 24 October 2010 Northern region: 23 – 31 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	18 December 2010 – 2 January 2011	18 December 2010 – 2 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival*)</b>	Northern + Central region + Southern region: 19 – 27 February 2011	Northern + Central region + Southern region: 19 – 27 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	-	-
<b>Third term</b>	30 April – 8 May 2011	30 April – 8 May 2011
<b>Summer</b>	Northern region: 23 July – 4 September 2011 Central region: 2 July – 14 August 2011 Southern region: 9 July – 21 August 2011	Northern region: 16 July – 4 September 2011 Central region: 2 July – 21 August 2011 Southern region: 9 July – 28 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	Easter Monday: 25 April 2011 Ascension Day: 2 June 2011 Whit Monday: 13 June 2011	Easter Monday: 25 April 2011 Ascension Day: 2 June 2011 Whit Monday: 13 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	See additional notes	See additional notes
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	See additional notes	See additional notes

Source: Eurydice

## THE NETHERLANDS (CONTINUED)

---

### **Additional notes:**

The school year officially runs from 1 August to 31 July of the following year. Start and end of the school year of the individual schools is according to the region (Northern, Central and Southern region).

Dates for the **summer holidays** are decided by the Ministry; the holiday period is staggered over 3 regions (compulsory dates for all schools); all other holidays are recommended by the Ministry.

- \*) Carnival holiday is also called Spring Holiday or Crocus Holiday;
- the recommended period for the Carnival Holiday does not fit with Carnival week; it can be expected that schools in the Roman-Catholic areas of the country will not follow the recommendations and will close for Carnival.

The **teachers'** school year is similar to the students' school year. However, it is at the school's discretion to decide whether **teachers** are expected to end or start later (in order to attend meetings, for preparation of timetable, other non-teaching activities etc.).

## NORWAY

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	Between 15 and 23 August 2010 Most counties: 16 – 19 August 2010	Between 15 and 23 August 2010 Most counties: 16 – 19 August 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	Between 16 and 24 June 2011	Between 16 and 24 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week (some just 2 days) Starting 27 September or 4 October 2010 (week 40 or 41)	1 week (some just 2 days) Starting 27 September or 4 October 2010 (week 40 or 41)
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	Approx.: 2 weeks Between 17 and 23 December 2010 and 3 or 5 of January 2011	Approx.: 2 weeks Between 17 and 23 December 2010 and 3 or 5 of January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week Between 21 February and 11 March 2011 (Week 8, 9 or 10 )	1 week Between 21 February and 15 March 2011 (Week 8, 9 or 10)
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	9 days Between 18 and 26 April 2011	9 days Between 18 and 26 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	Approx.: 8 weeks Between 18/24 June and 15/22 August 2011	Approx.: 8 weeks Between 18/24 June and 15/22 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	1 day 17 May 2011	1 day 17 May 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	See additional note	See additional note
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	See additional note	See additional note

Source:KS/ Eurydice

### Additional notes:

For the primary schools can the municipality decide individually the school holidays, as the counties can decide for the upper secondary schools.

The teachers' work during the school year is counted in working hours. That is 1300 hours for primary education (ISCED 1), 1225 hours for lower secondary education (ISCED 2) and 1150 hours for upper secondary education. It is an individual matter for each school if the work hours, longer than for the students, are before the beginning or after the end of the school year.

# POLAND

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	31 August 2011	31 August 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	-	-
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	1 week 23 – 31 December 2010	1 week 23 – 31 December 2010
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	2 weeks <b>17 – 30 January 2011</b> Lubelskie Łódzkie Podkarpackie Pomorskie Śląskie <b>24 January – 6 February 2011</b> Podlaskie Warmińsko-Mazurskie <b>31 January – 13 February 2011</b> Kujawsko-Pomorskie Lubuskie Małopolskie Świętokrzyskie Wielkopolskie <b>14 - 27 February 2011</b> Dolnośląskie Mazowieckie Opolskie Zachodniopomorskie	2 weeks <b>17 – 30 January 2011</b> Lubelskie Łódzkie Podkarpackie Pomorskie Śląskie <b>24 January – 6 February 2011</b> Podlaskie Warmińsko-Mazurskie <b>31 January – 13 February 2011</b> Kujawsko-Pomorskie Lubuskie Małopolskie Świętokrzyskie Wielkopolskie <b>14 - 27 February 2011</b> Dolnośląskie Mazowieckie Opolskie Zachodniopomorskie
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	21 – 26 April 2011	21 – 26 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	Approx. 10 weeks / beginning date not settled – 31 August 2011	Approx. 10 weeks / beginning date not settled – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	1 November 2010 11 November 2010 2-3 May 2011 3 June 2011 23 June 2011	1 November 2010 11 November 2010 2-3 May 2011 3 June 2011 23 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	31 August 2011	31 August 2011

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

End of school year for final year/ semester of upper secondary schools 7 January 2011 (winter session) or 29 April 2011 (spring session); end of school year for final year/ semester of basic vocational schools and post-secondary schools 14 January 2011 or 17 June 2011.

## PORTUGAL

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	Between 8 and 13 September 2010	Between 8 and 13 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	22 June 2011	9 June 2011 (9 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grades) 22 June 2011 (5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> grades)
<b>First term</b>	8/13 September – 17 December 2010	8/13 September – 17 December 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	20 – 31 December 2010	20 – 31 December 2010
<b>Second term</b>	3 January – 8 April 2011	3 January – 8 April 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	7 – 9 February 2011	7 – 9 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	11 – 21 April 2011	11 – 21 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	26 April – 22 June 2011	26 April – 9/22 June 2011
<b>Summer</b>	About 12 weeks 22 June – 8/13 September 2011	About 12 weeks 22 June (except for 9 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grades, submitted to national exams) – 8/13 September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	<b>14 days:</b> 5 October 2010 1 November 2010 1 December 2010 8 December 2010 1 January 2011 8 March 2011 2 April 2011 4 April 2011 25 April 2011 3 June 2011 10 June 2011	<b>14 days:</b> 5 October 2010 1 November 2010 1 December 2010 8 December 2010 1 January 2011 8 March 2011 2 April 2011 4 April 2011 25 April 2011 3 June 2011 10 June 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	a) see additional notes	a) see additional notes
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	a) see additional notes	a) see additional notes

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

a) The official length of teachers' school year goes from 1 September to 31 August. Teachers have the right to one month summer holidays, which they can enjoy during the months of June (at the end of pupils school year), July or August, according to the needs of the respective schools.

## ROMANIA

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	13 September 2010	13 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	17 June 2011	17 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 1 November – 7 November 2010	-
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 22 December 2010 – 4 January 2011	2 weeks 22 December 2010 – 4 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week 29 January – 6 February 2011	1 week 29 January – 6 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	1 week 16 April – 25 April 2011	1 week 16 April – 25 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	12 weeks 18 June – 12 September 2011	12 weeks 18 June – 12 September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	2 days National holyday: 01/12/2010 Pentecost: 13/06/2011	2 days National holyday: 01/12/2010 Pentecost: 13/06/2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	31 August 2011*	31 August 2011*

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

In exceptional situations, depending on the local climatic conditions and school's specificity, the organisation of the school year can be modified at the request of schools, approved by the regional education authorities (County School Inspectorate). Approval is given if the number of 177 school days is maintained and all pupils may participate without restrictions in national examinations.

\*Teachers: During school holidays, teachers may benefit from an annual leave of minimum 62 days excluding Sundays and legal holidays.

## SLOVAKIA

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Primary education</b>	<b>General secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	2 September 2010	2 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	2 days 29 October – 2 November 2010	2 days 29 October – 2 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 23 December 2010 – 7 January 2011	2 weeks 23 December 2010 – 7 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 day 31 January 2011 1 week, according regions: <b>14 – 18 February 2011</b> Banska Bystrica, Žilina, Trenčín <b>21 – 25 February 2011</b> Bratislava, Nitra, Trnava <b>28 February – 4 March 2011</b> Košice , Prešov	1 day 31 January 2011 1 week, according regions: <b>14 – 18 February 2011</b> Banska Bystrica, Žilina, Trenčín <b>21 – 25 February 2011</b> Bratislava, Nitra, Trnava <b>28 February – 4 March 2011</b> Košice , Prešov
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	4 days (Easter holidays) 21 – 26 April 2011	4 days (Easter holidays) 21 – 26 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	9 weeks 1 July – 2 September 2011	9 weeks 1 July – 2 September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	4 days 01/09/2010, 15/09/2010, 01/11/2010, 17/11/2010	4 days 01/09/2010, 15/09/2010, 01/11/2010, 17/11/2010
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	Usually one week before beginning of the school year	Usually one week before beginning of the school year
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	Usually, one week after summer holidays begin	Usually, one week after summer holidays begin

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

Official school year: 1 September to 31 August. If 2 September is Friday, Saturday or Sunday starting date of school year is next Monday.

Following the Labour Code, teachers and head teachers of schools at primary and secondary levels have 8 weeks of holidays per calendar year. They take it during the holidays. Usually, teachers work one week after beginning of summer holidays and one week before the beginning of the school year.

## SLOVENIA

<b>Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Single structure education</b>	<b>General upper secondary education</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	24 June 2011	24 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 25 – 31 October 2010	1 week 25 –31 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	1 week 25 December 2010 – 02 January 2011	1 week 25 December 2010 – 2 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week 21 – 25 February 2011	1 week 21 – 25 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	1 day 25 April 2011 (Easter Monday)	1 day 25 April 2011 (Easter Monday)
<b>Third term</b>	1 week 27 April – 2 May 2011	1 week 27 April – 2 May 2011
<b>Summer</b>	9 weeks 25 June – 31 August 2011	9 weeks 25 June – 31 August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	1 day 8 February 2011 (Day of Slovenian Culture)	1 day 8 February 2011 (Day of Slovenian Culture)
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	At least 10 days before the starting date for students	At least 10 to 15 days before the starting date for students
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	Between the beginning to mid-July 2011	Between the beginning to mid-July 2011

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

The official length of the school year is from 01 September to 31 August, but lessons are completed in June.

**Primary education:** Primary and lower secondary education (single structure education);

**General secondary education:** Upper secondary general education.

### End of the school lessons (single structure of primary and lower secondary education):

15 June for the final (9<sup>th</sup>) grade pupils, external examinations run in May;

24 June for pupils who are not in the final grade (grades 1 - 8).

### End of the upper secondary school lessons:

24 May 2011 end of lessons for students in final grade; final examinations in June and July;

24 June 2011 is the last day of lessons for upper secondary students who are not in the final grade.

**Teachers' school year** begins about 10 to 15 days before the pupils'/students' school year and ends somewhere between the beginning to mid July. The precise length depends on the individually determined leave of a teacher (from 22 to 35 days) and his/her tasks and obligations allocated by the head teacher.

## SPAIN

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year <sup>(1, 2)</sup>

	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	Between 7 and 13 September 2010	Between 7 and 17 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	Between 18 and 24 June 2011	Between 21 and 27 June <sup>(3)</sup> 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	-	-
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	At least 2 weeks between 23 December 2010 and 8 January 2011	At least 2 weeks between 23 December 2010 and 8 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	Between 3 and 6 days (depending on the Autonomous Community) <sup>(4)</sup>	Between 3 and 6 (depending on the Autonomous Community) <sup>(4)</sup>
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	About 1 week between 18 and 25 April	About 1 week between 18 and 25 April
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	11 weeks between late June and mid September	11/12 weeks between late June and mid September
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	12 public holidays (some of them common throughout the whole country and some specific of the different Autonomous Communities).	12 public holidays (some of them common throughout the whole country and some specific of the different Autonomous Communities).
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011

#### Additional notes:

<sup>(1)</sup> Dates vary according to the different Autonomous Communities, see the table below.

<sup>(2)</sup> The total minimum number of school days is 175 in Primary, Lower Secondary and Upper Secondary Education in all Autonomous Communities.

<sup>(3)</sup> In the last year of post-compulsory upper general secondary education, classes finish two or three weeks earlier than in the rest of stages. This time is used to prepare the university entrance examinations.

<sup>(4)</sup> In the different Autonomous Communities, the education authorities allocate a certain number of days (between 3 and 6) for Carnival, bank holidays or other free days or grant freedom to schools to allocate these days along the whole school year at their convenience.

## SPAIN (CONTINUED)

Specification of terms for the beginning and the end of the school year 2010/11				
	Primary education		General secondary education <sup>1</sup>	
	Beginning 2010	End 2011	Beginning 2010	End 2011
Andalucía	10 September	Not later 22 June / 24 June <sup>(2)</sup>	15 September	Not later 22 June / 24 June <sup>(2)</sup>
Aragón	7 September	21 June	9 September	21 June
Asturias	9 September	21 June	14 September	24 June
Baleares	13 September	22 June	13 September	22 June
Canarias	8 September	22 June	14 September	22 June
Cantabria	13 September	24 June	13 September	24 June
Castilla y León	9 September	23 June	15 September	23 June
Castilla-La Mancha	8 September	20 June	14 September	27 June
Cataluña	7 September	22 June	7 September	22 June
Ceuta	9 September	21 June	9 September	21 June
Extremadura	13 September	23 June	13 September (Lower Secondary) 15 September (Upper Secondary)	23 June
Galicia	10 September	22 June	17 September	23 June
La Rioja	8 September	24 June	13 September	24 June
Madrid	13 September	24 June	15 September	24 June
Melilla	9 September	22 June	9 September (Lower Secondary) 13 September (Upper Secondary)	22 June
Murcia	13 September	24 June	16 September	20 June
Navarra <sup>(3)</sup>	Not before 6 September	No later 21 June	Not before 10 September	Not later 22 June
País Vasco <sup>(3)</sup>	Not before 7 September	Not later 23 June	Not before 7 September	Not later 23 June
C. Valenciana	9 September	23 June	15 September	23 June

**Additional notes:**

<sup>(1)</sup> In the last year of post-compulsory upper general secondary education, classes finish two or three weeks earlier than in the rest of stages. This time is used to prepare the university entrance examinations.

<sup>(2)</sup> Ending date of classes in Primary and Compulsory Secondary Education for the whole Autonomous Community of Andalusia will not be later than June 22, except for the province of Malaga, in which the ending date of classes is June 24.

<sup>(3)</sup> In these Autonomous Communities schools are free to establish their own calendar taking into account the limit starting and ending dates established by the educational authorities.

Source: School calendars of the 17 Autonomous Communities and the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla.

## SWEDEN

<b>Organisation of school time in compulsory education (<i>grundskola</i>) and in general upper secondary education (<i>gymnasieskola</i>) 2010/11 school year</b>		
	<b>Single structure compulsory education (<i>grundskola</i>)</b>	<b>General upper secondary education (<i>gymnasieskola</i>)</b>
<b>Starting date of students' school year 2010</b>	Late in August	Late in August
<b>End of students' school year 2011</b>	Early in June	Early in June
According to the Compulsory School Ordinance and the Upper secondary School Ordinance a school year consists of at least 178 school days and at least 17 holidays – the exact dates vary on regional and municipality level.		
<b>Autumn holidays 2010</b>	1 – 5 November 2010	1 – 5 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year 2010/2011</b>	Start between 13 – 17 December 2010, end between 1 – 14 January 2011	Start between 13 – 17 December 2010, end between 1 – 14 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival 2011</b>	One week between 14 February – 4 March 2011	One week between 14 February – 4 March 2011
<b>Spring/Easter 2011</b>	Between 11 – 25 April 2011	Between 11 – 25 April 2011
<b>Summer 2010</b>	About 10 weeks	About 10 weeks
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	Public holidays are Easter break 21, 22 and 25 April, 1 May, the National Day 6 June if these do not fall on a Saturday and Sunday	Public holidays are Easter break 21, 22 and 25 April, 1 May, the National Day 6 June if these do not fall on a Saturday and Sunday
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	Late in August	Late in August
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	Early in June	Early in June

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

We have a single structure compulsory school, 9 years, with no differences between stages. Starting and finishing dates vary on regional and municipality levels, dates here are indicative.

**Teachers:** Teachers usually start their work earlier for planning etc. CPD is the responsibility of the employer and it can take place when the pupils are in school or not.

## TURKEY

### Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	20 September 2010	20 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	17 June 2011	17 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	3 days 8 – 10 September 2010 4 days 16 – 19 November 2010 (religious holiday)	3 days 8 – 10 September 2010 4 days 16 – 19 November 2010 (religious holiday)
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>		
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	2 weeks 31 January – 11 February 2011	2 weeks 31 January – 11 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	-	-
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	13 weeks 17 June – 12 September 2011	13 weeks 17 June – 12 September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	1 day 29 October 2010 (public holiday) 1 day 19 May 2011 (public holiday) 1 day 30 August 2011 (public holiday)	1 days 29 October 2010 (public holiday) 1 day 19 May 2011 (public holiday) 1 day 30 August 2011 (public holiday)
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	Beginning September	Beginning September
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	Beginning July	Beginning July

Source: Eurydice

**Additional notes:**

For primary and general secondary education, a school year must be not less than 180 days. A school year runs 9 months from September to June.

A school year is divided into two parts: at the end of a semester, there is a two-week holiday, called mid-school year holiday. The summer holidays are between June and September. Decisions on ending/starting semester dates are made by the Ministry.

## UNITED KINGDOM – ENGLAND AND WALES

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	The first week of September 2010	The first week of September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	Between 22 and 27 July 2011	Between 22 and 27 July 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	1 week 25 – 29 October 2010	1 week 25 – 29 October 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks Between 20 December 2010 and the first week of January 2011	2 weeks Between 20 December 2010 and the first week of January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	1 week 21 – 25 February 2011	1 week 21 – 25 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	2 weeks 11 – 25 April 2011	2 weeks 11 – 25 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	1 week 30 May – 3 June 2011	1 week 30 May – 3 June 2011
<b>Summer</b>	6 weeks Between 22 July and the first week of September 2011	6 weeks Between 22 July and the first week of September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	Good Friday 22 April 2011 Early May Bank Holiday 2 May 2011	Good Friday 22 April 2011 Early May Bank Holiday 2 May 2011
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	The first week of September 2010	The first week of September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	Between 22 and 27 July 2011	Between 22 and 27 July 2011

Source: Eurydice

**Additional notes:** Schools must be open to pupils for at least 380 half day sessions each school year. Teachers are required to be available for five additional days, ie for 195 days in total. The actual dates on which schools operate are not laid down centrally; they are set, depending on the legal category of the school, by the local authority (LA) or school governing body.

The table shows the most common patterns for term dates and holidays. Traditionally, the school year is divided into three terms, each of which is divided into two half terms separated by a half term holiday. The dates of school holidays are normally planned to take into account and cover most national public holidays including Easter.

There is currently movement towards the adoption of a standard school year, consistent year on year. The standard school year is divided into six blocks of roughly even length which are more evenly distributed throughout the year: two, approximately seven-week blocks before Christmas, followed by four approximately six-week blocks afterwards. The spring break is taken around the first two weeks of April irrespective of the timing of Easter. A 2008 LGA survey found that, since its introduction in 2004/05, 79 local authorities out of 125 had adopted the standard school year fully or in part.

## UNITED KINGDOM – NORTHERN IRELAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2010/11 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	2 days 29 October and 1 November 2010	2 days 29 October and 1 November 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 weeks 23 December 2010 – 3 January 2011	2 weeks 23 December 2010 – 3 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	2 days 14 – 15 February 2011	2 days 14 – 15 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	1 week 21 – 29 April 2011	1 week 21 – 29 April 2011
<b>Third term</b>	-	-
<b>Summer</b>	9 weeks Between 1 July and the first week of September 2011	9 weeks Between 1 July and the first week of September 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	St. Patrick's Day 17 March 2011 (not all schools) Early May Bank Holiday 2 May 2011 Spring Bank Holiday 30 May 2011 (not all schools)	St. Patrick's Day 17 March 2011 (not all schools) Early May Bank Holiday 2 May 2011 Spring Bank Holiday 30 May 2011 (not all schools)
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	1 September 2010	1 September 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	30 June 2011	30 June 2011

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

The table shows the dates on which schools are closed to pupils. Teachers must attend on 5 of these dates for training and development purposes.

Schools are required to be in operation for 200 days a year; however, schools have the discretion to close for up to 5 optional days. Optional days are intended to cover closings throughout the year in special circumstances, for example the death of a person connected with the school, the need to move premises, the start of building work at the school or church holy days. These optional days are therefore likely to differ from school to school. Not all schools close on St Patrick's Day, 17 March and the Spring Bank Holiday, 30 May.

## UNITED KINGDOM - SCOTLAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2009/10 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
<b>Starting date of students' school year</b>	Mid-August 2010	Mid-August 2010
<b>End of students' school year</b>	End June/early July 2011	End June/early July 2011
<b>Autumn holidays</b>	Many schools will take from 1 to 2 weeks in mid-October 2010 but others will take from 1 to 3 days spread out between 6 September and 3 December 2010	Many schools will take from 1 to 2 weeks in mid-October 2010 but others will take from 1 to 3 days spread out between 6 September and 3 December 2010
<b>Christmas/New Year</b>	2 to 2.5 weeks between 17 December 2010 to 10 January 2011	Around 2 weeks between 17 December 2010 to 10 January 2011
<b>Winter/Carnival</b>	From 1 day to 1 week between 11 and 21 February 2011	From 1 day to 1 week between 11 and 21 February 2011
<b>Spring/Easter</b>	About 2 weeks between 25 March and 19 April 2011	About 2 weeks between 25 March and 19 April 2011
<b>Summer mid-term holidays</b>	Generally schools will take at least 1 day on 2 May 2011 but some schools will also take up to 3 days between 29 April and 31 May 2011	Generally schools will take at least 1 day on 2 May 2011 but some schools will also take up to 3 days between 29 April and 31 May 2011
<b>Summer</b>	End June/early July – mid-August 2011	End June – mid-August 2011
<b>Public/religious holidays</b>	Up to 3 days	Up to 3 days
<b>Starting date of teachers' school year</b>	Mid-August 2010	Mid-August 2010
<b>End of teachers' school year</b>	End June/early July 2011	End June/early July 2011

Source: Eurydice

### Additional notes:

In Scotland, pupils attend school for 190 days a year. The teachers' school year is longer by 5 in-service days (195 days).

As school holidays (and in-service days) are not fixed nationally, but by each of the 32 local education authorities, term dates vary from one authority to another. There are no differences between primary and secondary schools.