

Attendance

Your school is open for 190 days each year. This leaves 175 days for holidays, medical appointments, shopping and spending time together.

If you have 10 days holiday this will mean you have only 180 days at school and 185 days off each year.

If your child has 10 days holiday they can only achieve 94.74% attendance.

If your child has 10 days holiday and 5 days sick each year they can only achieve 92.11% attendance.

If your child has 15 days off school each year they will miss 195 days (over one academic year) during their 13 years education.

All children have a legal right to education. All parents are legally responsible for their child's attendance. If a parent fails to ensure regular attendance they may be prosecuted.

Parents should not normally take pupils on holidays in term time and parents must apply for the leave in advance of taking it." Department for Education, Guidance for Schools and Local Authorities, November.2016

The Law:

Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 places a duty on all parents to ensure their children receive an efficient full time education suitable:

- (a) To his age, ability and aptitude, and
- (b) To any special educational needs he may have, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.

If a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued it is a fine of £60 per parent per child which must be paid in one payment within 21 days. If a Notice is unpaid within 21 days, the fine will double to £120 per parent per child if paid within 28 days. If a fixed penalty notice fine is not paid in full within the timescale set out above, the Local Authority is required to start legal proceedings against the parent(s) in the local Magistrates' Court for the offence of failing to ensure their child has attended school regularly.

Absence from school can only be authorised by the Headteacher.

10 days makes a big difference to your child. It affects their ability to succeed. It affects their opportunity to make friends.

"Schools can only agree to absence for a family holiday if they believe there are special circumstances which warrant it." Department for Education, Guidance for Schools and Local Authorities, November 2016.

- All parents/carers must complete a holiday form before taking any holiday.
- All requests will need to be discussed with a senior member of staff or the Headteacher.
- If your child has less than 95% attendance, over the previous 12 months, holidays will not be authorised.
- No holidays will be authorised in September.
- No holidays will be authorised in the first half of Summer Term (SAT's) or any other testing period.

We want to give your children the best chances in life.