

Term -Time Leave of Absence

Changes in the law mean that head teachers can no longer grant leave of absence in term -time unless there are exceptional circumstances for the absence.

The following reasons are NOT considered as exceptional:

- Holidays taken in term time due to lower costs, parental work commitments or once in a life time experiences.
- Holidays abroad for the purpose of visiting a sick relative
- Holidays booked as a surprise by relatives



Attendance Matters...

Children who attend school every day make better progress

The Education Act of 1996 states that it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to ensure that all children between the ages of 5-16 years attend school on a regular basis AND on time. Failure to do this may end up with YOU being fined and taken to court.

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'With the Wind In Our Sails'

Attendance Leaflet

Good school attendance enables children to feel confident and happy about the school work and activities that they participate in. As a parent you can support your child to enjoy school life to the full by ensuring they attend school every day AND on time.

Missing days

As a parent it is your responsibility to let the school know if your child is going to be absent. Please contact the school on the first day of an absence on 01844 237710. Messages can be left 24hrs a day. Failure to contact the school causes a lot of work for the office and can result in a home visit or the police being contacted.

Unacceptable reasons for absence:

- Shopping
- Birthday treats
- Visiting relatives
- Non-urgent medical and dental appointments

Remember:

The **only** acceptable reasons for non-attendance are:

- Illness
- Emergency appointments

Government Guidelines say that Attendance should be at least 95%

of school

Learning missed in a school year

Your child's attendance is above 98%

Amazing Attendance!
Your child has the very best chance of success

Your child's attendance is between 95%-98%

Brilliant Attendance!

Your child's attendance is between 92-95%

Be Aware. Even a few days absence make it hard for your child to catch up. Every day really does count.

Your child's attendance is between 89-92%

Attendance at this level will start to have a detrimental effect on your child's education

Your child's attendance is between 85-89%

The Government classes your child as Persistently Absent from school. Over the course of the year your child could miss as much as 5 weeks and 3 days of learning – that's nearly half a term!

Your child's attendance is below 85%

The Government classes your child as Persistently Absent from school. Attendance below 85% has a serious effect on your child's education and may effect their chances in later life.

Your child has the Best Chance of Success

Well done and Keep Going!

In line with National attendance and OFSTED Expectation

Your child has Poor Attendance

and less chance of success Below National attendance and OFSTED Expectations

Your child has Very Poor Attendance

and Significant Learning has been missed Below National attendance and OFSTED Expectations. The Government classes your child as Persistently Absent from school.

As a school we are very concerned and will closely monitor your child's attendance and will contact you via letters and meetings

As a school we are seriously concerned and at 80% are required to refer attendance to the Education Welfare Service

adds up...

Time missed at school can lead to gaps in knowledge that become difficult to fill

Did you know?

If your child's attendance is 80%, this means your child is absent:

- 1 day **EVERY** week
- 6 days **EVERY** half term
- 12 days **EVERY** term
- 36 days **EVERY** year
- 180 days in five years.

That's nearly **ONE WHOLE SCHOOL YEAR!**

If a child has 10 days off school in a school year, they're actually spending more days at home than at school.