

## **Leave during term time**

The school will not give permission for family holidays in term. You can only allow your child to miss school if they are too ill to attend, or other exceptional reasons. Applications for term time leave must be made in writing to the headteacher, before any tickets are purchased or other arrangements are made.

Being in school is important to children's academic achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Regular school attendance is a key to supporting economic and social outcomes in adulthood. Young people benefit from positive peer relationships at school, which contributes to better mental health and wellbeing. It is widely accepted that pupils with the highest school attendance make more positive transitions to further education, employment and adult life.

Requests for leave can only be granted by schools if there are 'exceptional circumstances'. Family holidays, shopping trips, or birthday treats are not considered exceptional. These activities must be arranged during school holidays or weekends. This applies to all families with school aged children.

Schools have various legal powers if your child is missing school without a good reason. Information regarding this can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence/legal-action-to-enforce-school-attendance>

**It is essential that you check with the headteacher whether term time absence will be considered as an 'exceptional circumstance BEFORE you book tickets or make other arrangements. Term time absence must be requested in writing to the headteacher.**