

Taking your child out of school for holidays during term time will affect their education.

This leaflet explains what you need to consider in deciding whether to take a holiday during term time.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



THINKING OF TAKING A HOLIDAY?

**A Guide for Parents and Carers
PLEASE CONSIDER**



- While you are away for one week your child will miss:
 - 5 hours of literacy
 - 5 hours of numeracy
 - 10 hours learning of a combination of science, religious education, music, art, physical education, geography, history, design technology & information technology
- If your child has a holiday of 2 weeks and has a 1 week period of sickness in one school year they will miss

15 hours of literacy

15 hours of numeracy

30 hours of other lessons

Can your child keep up with other pupils if they miss out on 60 hours of education?

This is equivalent to 7.7% of their schooling in one year. If this pattern is repeated throughout their school life they would miss 33 weeks of their education.

One school year = 39 weeks!

**THINKING OF TAKING A HOLIDAY?
PLEASE THINK AGAIN**

If you still wish to take a holiday, you need to

- Ask the school for an application form.
- Complete the form and return to the Head Teacher. Make sure that you give the date you wish the holiday to commence and date your child will be back at school.
- The school will consider your application. If agreement is given you should receive it in writing, giving the date your child is expected back in school and the consequences of failure to return on that day.
- Wherever possible you should take your holidays during school holidays.
- Your child's school will always consider your request for a holiday during term time, and will take factors such as parents work commitments into account in deciding whether to agree to authorise the absence.
- You should not expect school to agree to a family holiday during term time. The school will take your child's attendance record into account before agreeing any holiday requests.
- School will not agree to your child missing more than 10 days in any one school year.
- School will not be authorised more than one holiday in any school year.
- If your child fails to return to school after a period of absence agreed between you and the school, there

is a possibility that they may be removed from the school roll.

- **Excessive requests for holidays may give your child the impression that school is not important. Please help them to value education.**

The Role of the Local Authority

- Local Authorities (LAs) are responsible, by law, for making sure parents ensure that registered pupils of compulsory school age attend their school regularly.
- Rotherham LA employs Education Welfare Officers to monitor school attendance and help parents meet their responsibilities.
- Education Welfare Officers work closely with schools and if your child is not attending regularly they may visit you.
- It is the parents/carers responsibility to ensure that children attend school regularly. Failure to do so could result in prosecution. Magistrates can impose fines on both parents . the maximum fine is £2,500. each or a prison sentence of 3 months, or both.
- It is essential that your child attends school regularly . for your child's sake you should co-operate with the school and the Education Welfare Officer.