

The Law.....

From 1st September 2013 Government regulations around holidays in term-time have changed

The change in the law makes it clear that school may not grant any leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances

If you have term-time absence without the school's permission or if a child fails to return on the agreed date this will be recorded as unauthorised absence (truancy), and noted on the child's attendance record.

School's decision.....

When deciding whether to allow term-time leave, the school will consider:

- The child's age
- The time and duration of the leave
- The child's record of attendance
- Previous term-time absences
- Whether there are exceptional circumstances relating to the request

There is a holiday discount scheme with Hays Travel that allows families to receive 10% from any holiday booked with Hays Travel that falls within school holidays.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

It is important that parents carefully consider the implications of taking their child out of school during term-time.

There are only 190 statutory school days in one year which means if your child misses 8 days they are out of school more days than they are in school

**There are 175 days
for
Shopping, Birthday Treats and
Holidays, non urgent medical and
dental appointments**

Parent/Guardian's decision

Parents may need to remember that there are times during a school year when a student may experience problems because of term-time leave:

- Disadvantages if close to exams or tests, such as the SATs in May
- Settling in during the first year at school
- Students who need support in certain areas of the curriculum must continually access the extra help that is offered
- A student may miss out on valuable group work with classmates that cannot be repeated

Attendance

Good attendance = higher grades

% Attendance	Attendance Days	Absence
100%	190	0
95%	180	2 weeks
90%	171	4 weeks
85%	161	6 weeks
80%	152	1/2 term
75%	143	9 weeks +

Figures calculated over a school year

You must

- Complete an absence request form **AT LEAST SEVEN DAYS** before your requested leave of absence
- Talk to your child's teacher about how the work missed is going to be completed
- Make sure that your child returns on the first school day after the leave of absence has ended

Term Time Absence Request Form



I would like to request permission for my son / daughter.....
Year to be absent from school during the dates
ofto

What are the **exceptional circumstances** for your leave of absence request that you wish the school to consider

.....
.....
.....
.....

Date of request

.....

Signed Parent/
carer

School Use Only

Concerns re absence Y/N

.....

Request Granted Y/N

Date

If you go ahead with the absence without authorisation your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Please note that unauthorised absence may lead to a fixed penalty fine. School term dates are set well in advance and can be obtained from the school or from the LA website: www.durham.gov.uk

A question to ask **BEFORE**
deciding whether or not it is
appropriate to ask for term-time
leave:

Is it exceptional circumstances?

If you need any further advice please
Contact:

Mrs S Kitching - Headteacher
Wolsingham Primary School
Uppertown
Wolsingham
County Durham
DL13 3ET

Tel: 01388 527457
E-mail:

wolsinghamprimary@durhamlearning.net

Wolsingham Primary
School



Term Time Absence Request

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS



Information for Parents