## What does the law say?

The government has made amendments to the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. This states that:

Leave of absence shall not be granted unless—
(a) an application has been made in advance to the proprietor (school/headteacher) by a parent with whom the pupil normally resides; and

(b) the proprietor , or a person authorised by the proprietor in accordance with paragraph (1), considers that leave of absence should be granted due to the exceptional circumstances relating to that application.

## Exceptional circumstances

**For example:**

- Forces Personnel on leave from a foreign posting
- **Exceptional significant** family events or circumstances – these will be considered on an individual basis with you.

The headteacher will consider every request individually but the following will not meet the criteria:

- Relatives coming to visit
- Cheaper holidays in England and abroad
- Family day trips
- Visiting family/friends who have different school holidays

The headteacher does not have to give permission if you request a holiday. If the holiday is not approved, your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

## What is the effect on your child?

- Two weeks absence in every school year would mean your child missed four terms of education during their school life. This could seriously affect your child's progress.
- 90% attendance is the equivalent of 1/2 day absence per week.
- 80% attendance is the equivalent of missing six weeks of schooling over a year.
- Your child will find it difficult to settle in if they miss school at the start of a new term or when they are moving to a new school or class.
- Your child may miss important educational experiences. It can be very difficult to catch up.
- Preparation and revision for exams and tests may be affected.
- Your child may think that you do not see school as important.

## Parents and Carers

- You must always fill in a form to request pupil absence for exceptional circumstances. The school keeps a stock of these forms.
- You should do this **before** you consider arranging any time for the pupil to be away from school – there should be exceptional reasons.
- If your child has 5 days or more unauthorised absence during a rolling 3 Year period, you may:

  (i) receive a Fixed Penalty Notice (you will be prosecuted if you do not pay the fine), per parent per child.

  **OR**

  (ii) be prosecuted in the Magistrates' Court for your child's non-attendance at school. You can be fined up to £2500 or be placed on a Parenting Order.

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**Extend Learning Academy Network** wants to take a common sense and fair approach to holidays that is the same across the whole Academy Network.

We believe your child's education is very important. In order to do well, children and young people must attend school.

**We know you want your child to achieve as much as possible from their time at school too, so please support them by keeping them in school in term time.**

**Every School Day Counts to enable our pupils to be successful**

# Are you considering taking your child on holiday in term time?

## STOP AND THINK

**You must get the Head's permission before booking your holiday**

Extend Learning
Academies Network

Extend Learning Academies Network became a Multi Academy Trust on the 1st October 2017 and currently includes the following schools:

- Banwell Primary School
- Bournville Primary School
- Locking Primary School
- Mead Vale Primary School
- Mendip Green Primary School
- Milton Park Primary School
- Oldmixon Primary School
- Walliscote Primary School
- Windwhistle Primary School

Extend Learning Academies Network

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