

Is it worth taking a holiday in term time?



Before you take a holiday in term time please consider the facts;

1. It **will** affect your child's education.
2. If a child misses school for a two week holiday and in addition has 5 days off due to sickness each year then over their whole school life this equates to **36 weeks** of missed schooling. As a school year is only **39 weeks** this is practically a **whole year of school!**
Your child could be sitting their GCSEs with children who have had an extra year in school. Is that fair?
3. In a two week absence your child will miss **10 hours** of literacy, **10 hours** of numeracy and **25 hours** of other subjects including Science, IT, PE, RE, PSHE, History, Geography, Music, Art and Technology
4. There is **no** automatic entitlement to two weeks authorised absence.
5. All factors will be taken into consideration if you apply for a period of absence including;
 - Reason for absence
 - Prior attendance (below 94% and it will not be authorised)
 - Time of year (not in the first half term or in the months running up to statutory tests)
 - Parents' work commitments
6. Barnsley local authority, who are ultimately responsible, will issue parents with a fixed penalty of **£50** for unauthorised absence.
7. Education welfare officers **do** visit families where attendance is a concern.
8. If you value your child's education – they will too.

There are always special circumstances and we will always listen. Talk to us before you book your holiday. If you still wish to take your child on holiday in term time then the application for authorised absence must be made in writing. Application forms can be requested from and returned to me.

Mrs C. Brady (Headteacher)