

Stop!

Pause

Think..

We hope that when you have read this leaflet you will consider that your child's education is too important to take holidays during term time.

Contact

Education Welfare Service

Children and Young
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Telephone: 01743 254397

If you can read this but know someone who can't, please contact us on **01743 254397** so we can provide this information in a more suitable format.

Holidays in term time

Stop! it could cost more than you think!

Pause are you sure it is worth it?

Think.. of the effect upon your child

There are only 190 statutory school days in one year. There are 175 days (weekends and school holidays) available to use for holidays, which would not have a negative effect on your child's education.

Every School Day Counts!

Stop!

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Did you know?

- that the law says that parents do not have the right to take their child out of school for holidays during term time
- parents cannot demand leave of absence for the purpose of holidays as a right. They are asked to consider seriously the educational implications for their children before making application
- that the headteacher does not have to authorise holidays in term time other than in exceptional circumstances
- these exceptional circumstances can only cover a maximum of 10 days in a school year
- that taking an unauthorised holiday could result in each parent receiving a Fixed Penalty Notice costing up to £100 for each child
- that good consistent attendance at school is crucial giving your child the best chance of success

Have you considered?

- that any decision made by you as a parent to take a holiday in school time will have an effect upon your child
- the disruption that will be caused to other pupils and staff when your child returns to school following a holiday absence and needs extra help to catch up
- the headteacher will have to take into consideration the following points before making a decision about your holiday request:
 - Your child's previous attendance history
 - Your child's age
 - The stage of your child's education
 - The time of year (SATS, exams etc)
 - The nature of the trip (exceptional circumstances)

Also we know that

- those children who have the best rates of attendance achieve the best results and taking a holiday in term time will affect their potential
- research suggests that children who are taken out of school may never catch up on course work they have missed; this may affect test results and can be a particular problem for children in the last year of their schooling
- some children find it difficult to renew friendships with their classmates when they return to school following a period of absence

So

- please consider the unspoken message you are giving your child by letting them think it is acceptable to miss school. In some cases of severe truancy, taking time off for holidays in term time has been a contributory factor