



Learning, Playing, Working,
Growing Together

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Dear Parent/Carer

Good attendance at school is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life. Good school attendance is something expected by OFSTED, the Government and the Local Authority and as such, schools are required to ensure they meet strict targets.

This year has seen an increase in the number of children being taken out of school for holidays during term time. It is compulsory that children of school age attend school full time. Holidays, therefore, should **not** be taken in term time. Parents and carers should arrange holidays during the 13 week school holiday periods. Schools are open 190 days which leaves 175 days of the year for holidays.

From 1 September 2013, government legislation changed meaning schools are not allowed to authorise requests for children to be taken out of school for a holiday during term time. Returning to school following a holiday, or if a child is regularly absent, can be difficult. Children will be unprepared for lessons that build on the teaching they have missed. They may also miss special events and opportunities to form and develop friendships. Returning to school in these situations can make children feel anxious and uncertain.

There are strong links between good attendance at school and achieving good results. Like you, all staff and governors of our school want all the children to fulfil their potential – children need to attend school for this to happen.

We appreciate there will be times when your child is ill and their absence from school cannot be helped.

Over the coming year we hope all parents and carers will support us by ensuring their child attends school regularly and does not take holiday during term time. If we have any concerns about your child's attendance you will be contacted at an early stage as our aim is always to support you in resolving any issues.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or queries.

Yours sincerely

Tracy Robinson
Headteacher