

Westcliffe Federation



Holiday in Term Time Policy

Holidays in term time are discouraged in line with Local Authority and Government policy because they disrupt children's learning and education. Parents are asked to seriously consider the educational implications for their children, and the impact also for other children in their class, before making an application. Research shows that good consistent attendance is crucial in giving children the best chance of success.

The law states that parents do not have the right to take their child out of school for holidays during term time and that holidays should only be authorised in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Head Teacher.

Circumstances which may be considered to be exceptional include the following:

- The serious illness/death of a close family member
- Parents in the armed forces who are between periods of active duty

Unfortunately family holidays during term time for reasons of finance, convenience or as a surprise by Grandparents, are not considered exceptional.

If your holiday request is not authorised and you decide to go ahead with the holiday you will automatically receive a 'Holiday in Term Time' letter from the Education Welfare Service and may incur a fine per parent per 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!

Policy Updated: October 2019

Policy Review: October 2021