

12th May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Term Time Holidays

Following the result of the Supreme Court Judgement on the 18th April 2017, the County Council has confirmed that they will continue to issue Penalty Notices for unauthorised holidays.

Amendments to the regulations regarding students being granted leave of absence in term time came into force on the 1 September 2013. This law gives no entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time. No parent/carer can demand leave of absence as a right; however each case will be considered individually and may agree to "holiday leave" in **exceptional circumstances**.

Leave of Absence will not be authorised if:

- ☐ The pupil already has poor attendance and/or the Local Authority is involved
- ☐ The pupil already has unauthorised absence
- ☐ The pupil will miss Yr 6 SATs tests
- ☐ The pupil's educational progress will be affected by any disruption at the time

In all circumstances of holiday leave, a written application must be made by the parent with whom the pupil normally resides in advance of the holiday and a date for the pupils' return to school agreed. Parents will be informed in writing as to the decision made regarding the absence.

Where leave of absence has not been granted but is taken and that unauthorised absence amounts to more than 5 days the DLPT may make a request to the Local Authority to issue a penalty notice* to each parent for each child.

*The Penalty Notice shall be a sum of £120 if paid within 28 days. This shall be reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Horn
Executive Attendance Lead