

Lickey Hills Primary and Nursery School

Leave of Absence Information for Parents and Carers.

Lickey Hills Primary and Nursery School is committed to providing an education of the highest quality for all its pupils and recognises this can only be achieved by supporting and promoting excellent school attendance for all. This is based on the belief that only by attending school regularly and punctually will children and young people be able to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them. High attainment depends on good attendance. The school considers that all absences from school will disrupt a child's continuity of learning. As a consequence it believes that absences should be kept to a minimum in order to maximise your child's potential.

What the Law says

Regulations make it clear that parents do not have any right or entitlement to take a child out of school for the purposes of a term-time holiday. It is the decision of the Head teacher as to what might constitute exceptional circumstances and each request for term-time absence will be considered on an individual basis. The Head teacher will also look very carefully at the child's previous attendance record and should he or she have concerns, for example, should the child's average attendance be below 90%, it is highly unlikely that the Head teacher will agree to authorise any further absence.

Other factors will include the likely impact on the child's education, particularly in terms of continuity of learning; **there is a strong link between the amount of absence in a school and the qualifications that its pupils achieve**; whether the holiday falls during a year in which the child is involved in Government tests (e.g. SATs).

Applying for Leave of Absence for Holidays during Term Time

Applications should be made using the 'Leave of Absence Request' form. Parents are advised to apply for leave of absence before they confirm their holiday arrangements.

Parents will be informed, in writing, of the outcome of their application for leave of absence.

Amanda Salisbury
Headteacher
September 2013