**Parental Requests for Leave of Absence**

Parents have a legal obligation to ensure their child gets a full-time education, and unauthorised absences from school are in conflict with this duty. Parents do not have an automatic entitlement to take their child out of school during term time for any absence, and pupils are only permitted to miss school where they are too unwell to attend or where they have received advance permission from the school.

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 restrict a headteacher or proprietor’s powers to grant such term-time absences, allowing them only to do so in exceptional circumstances. The decision to allow absence in exceptional circumstances rests with the school’s headteacher and it is at their discretion how many days of absence is appropriate or possible in the circumstances. Each request should be treated individually, taking account of a number of factors, including pupil absence.

The following Trust templates should be used to support the process:

* Term Time Request Form

***(Parents should complete the attached form and return it to school. School’s decision to be recorded on the form and a copy of the form shared with parents)***

**Term-time absence request form**

Please fill out the below form in as much detail as possible to help us fairly consider your request. Where you have multiple children at the school for whom absence is requested, please fill out the form for the oldest child, and include the names and class of other relevant children in the dedicated box on the form. This form must be returned to the School Office at least **two weeks** before the proposed first day of absence. Requests that are received later than this may be rejected due to insufficient notice.

*Please note:* *Parents have a legal obligation to ensure their child gets a full-time education, and unauthorised absences from school are in conflict with this duty. Parents do not have an automatic entitlement to take their child out of school during term time for any absence, and pupils are only permitted to miss school where they are too unwell to attend or where they have received advance permission from the school.*

*The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 restrict a headteacher’s powers to grant term-time absences, allowing them only to do so in exceptional circumstances. The decision to allow absence in exceptional circumstances rests with the school’s headteacher and it is at their discretion how many days of absence is appropriate or possible in the circumstances. Each request is treated individually, taking account of a number of factors, including pupil absence rates.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **For parent/carer use only** | | | | | |
| **Pupil information** | | | | | |
| **Full name** |  | | | | |
| **Date of birth** |  | | | | |
| **Year group** |  | | | | |
| **Class** |  | | | | |
| **Please list the names of any other pupils for whom absence on the specific dates is requested, alongside their class** |  | | | | |
| **Information about proposed absence** | | | | | |
| **Start date of proposed absence** |  | | | | |
| **End date of proposed absence** |  | | | | |
| **Number of school days missed** |  | | | | |
| **Reason for absence**  **(Please include any exceptional circumstances that require this absence to be taken during term time instead of school holiday periods)** |  | | | | |
| **I have completed the above form fully, accurately and in detail.** | | | | Yes | |
| **I understand that the decision on whether my child can be granted absence from school during term time rests solely with the school, and that I cannot appeal any decision made.** | | | | Yes | |
| **I understand that if my request is rejected and I choose to remove my child from school in contradiction to the school’s decision, I may face a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £120 per parent per child from the Local Authority.** | | | | Yes | |
| **Parent/carer signature** |  | | **Date of request** |  | |
| **For office use only** | | | | | |
| **Date request received** |  | | | | |
| **Current attendance** |  | | | | |
| **Decision** | **Granted**  *The absence will be recorded as authorised* |  | **Not granted**  *The absence will be recorded as unauthorised and may be referred to the Local Authority for a penalty notice* | |  |
| **Additional comments** |  | | | | |
| **Headteacher signature** |  | | **Date of decision** |  | |