



### **Absence Request**

Since School attendance regulations have changed from 1st September 2013 under **Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013** which amends the existing 2006 regulations.

As a result of the new government legislation, Headteachers across the country will no longer be able to allow any absence for the purpose of a holiday during term time. Any holiday in term time will be treated as unauthorised. All of the schools in the local area have agreed to a joint decision on this also. There has to be exceptional circumstances to approve an absence. I have listed the criteria below.

#### **Allowed absence**

- ✓ Sickness/illness
- ✓ Emergency and planned medical appointments (Parents are requested to make to make routine appointments outside school hours)
- ✓ Hospital scheduled appointments /treatment
- ✓ Day/s for specific religious observance
- ✓ School is closed due to unforeseen circumstances

#### **Allowed absence in exceptional circumstances (at the discretion of the headteacher)**

- ✓ Family bereavement or close friend bereavement
- ✓ Other compassionate grounds
- ✓ Family wedding/civil partnership taking part on school day–not travelling to a wedding unless it is abroad.
- ✓ Family crisis
- ✓ Examinations off site
- ✓ Educational Opportunity – Sport & Performance
- ✓ Attendance at an event at the request of a public organisation
- ✓ Visit to a new school
- ✓ Family re-location visit

**Absences not allowed under any circumstances**

- ✓ Family holiday no matter what length
- ✓ Family trips
- ✓ Leaving school early to travel to an event

I appreciate the frustration you may feel as a result of the Government's changes but as you will see, the Government are very clear with both parents and Headteachers about this issue.