

Our ref: IS/ar

5 July 2013

Dear Parent / Carer

Amendments to School Attendance Regulations

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to inform you that the School Attendance Regulations 2006 have been amended to take effect from September 2013. The key amendments relate to the granting of leave for the purpose of family holidays in term time.

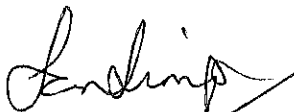
"Amendments to the 2006 regulations remove references to family holidays and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Headteachers should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted."

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/attendance/a00223868/regulations-amendments>

The definition of exceptional circumstances is decided by the Governing Body of the school. Once this definition has been adopted by the Governors I will let everyone know what we feel are exceptional circumstances.

We understand that in some circumstances families will have to take holidays within term time and would ask for people to still inform the School Office of any planned absences but as you can see some of these may not be authorised from September 2013. I am happy to discuss any circumstances with families in the future.

Yours faithfully



Ian Simpson
Headteacher