

Romiley Primary School

Holidays in term time Policy

After illness, the taking of holidays in term time is the single largest cause of absence from schools in England. At Romiley Primary School we believe that holidays in term time are undesirable because of the impact on our pupils' education, and we encourage parents always to take family holidays in the school holidays.

Research has shown that there is clear link between levels of attendance and levels of achievement and that, in short, the more time a pupil misses school, the lower their levels of achievement are likely to be.

Taking holidays in term time has a disruptive effect upon pupils' learning and it is often difficult for pupils to catch up with work that has been missed. It may also suggest to some pupils that their education is not an important priority.

Headteachers have a limited discretion to authorise up to ten days of absence for holidays a year or, exceptionally, longer. However, the legislation and guidance from the Department for Children, Schools and Families make it clear that schools should only approve holidays exceptionally and only if satisfied that special circumstances apply which outweigh the harmful impact upon the particular pupil's education. As a result, it will be rare for holidays to be approved.

If you wish to request permission to for a term time holiday please complete and return a holiday request form at least four weeks before the start date of the proposed holiday.

Please be aware that holidays taken without permission may lead to fixed penalty fines of up to £100 per parent for each pupil being issued by the Local Authority.

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