

Dear Parent

If you are considering taking a term time holiday, please take note of this information and do not book your holiday before you have discussed this with the head teacher.

At Molescroft Primary school we are committed to reducing the number of school days missed due to term time holidays.

The school also recognises that it should be a supporter of family life and that there are important events for families which need to be recognised and supported.

The East Riding of Yorkshire's Term Time Holiday Policy is supported by:



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Taking your children out of school for a term time holiday



## Children who attend school regularly do better in school

Attendance at school is very important for your child's future as there is a clear link between attendance and attainment. Children who have higher levels of attendance achieve better. Even a few days absence can impact on a child's progress.

In 2007, 91 per cent of children with less than six days absence achieved at least five GCSEs. Of the children who had more than twelve days absence, only 36 per cent achieved five GCSEs.

Also in 2007, 84 per cent of children with less than six days absence achieved level 4 or above in English and Mathematics. Of the children with twelve or more days absence, only 52 per cent achieved this level.



## Time off school for family holidays is not a right

However, headteachers may authorise term time holidays in specific circumstances but will require evidence.

### Circumstance 1:

When parents take their holiday in term time owing to their contractual arrangements e.g. farmers, factory workers, and tourist trade workers;

### Evidence:

A letter from the employer stating this is the case.

### Circumstance 2:

Where there have been medical or emotional issues involving a child or parent and a health professional has recommended that the family need rehabilitation time;

### Evidence:

A letter from the medical professional stating this is their recommendation.

### Circumstance 3:

Where emigration is being considered;

### Evidence:

Proof of investigation.

### Circumstance 4:

Where the family needs to leave the area to attend the ceremony of a relative;

### Evidence:

Formal invitation and/or a case put forward to the head teacher.

**Without this evidence the headteacher will not authorise your request.**

## The headteacher will not under any circumstance authorise holidays:

❖ **Year six assessment weeks; SATS**

## Consequences of taking an unauthorised term time holiday

If your request is declined and you take your child out of school for ten unauthorised absence sessions, each parent within your household will be issued with a £50 penalty notice for each child taken out of school. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, it will increase to £100. If after 42 days it remains unpaid, you will be summoned to appear before a Magistrate to explain why your child has unauthorised school absences. A fine of up to £1000 may be imposed.