



Challenge, Nurture, Respect

HOLIDAY STATEMENT

Ratified by Governors: September 2022

Next Review : September 2025

Chair of Governors: _____ Date: _____

Head Teacher: _____ Date: _____

Chorley New Road Primary Academy
School Holiday Statement (Holiday Requests during Term Time)
The Education (School Attendance England) Regulations 2006

The law states that parents should **NOT** normally take their child on holiday in term time as it can be disruptive both to their child's education and to the school. Chorley New Road Primary School does not authorise term time holidays - unless in exceptional circumstances.

Holidays in term time can only be agreed by the Headteacher. Schools can use their discretion to grant authorised absence in a school year **if both the following apply:**

- The parent whom the child normally lives with applies to the school in advance of the holiday using school holiday form and the school confirm the authorisation in writing.

AND

- There are '**exceptional circumstances**' for the holiday.

In this instance, schools can only agree holidays within a school year in exceptional circumstances. This will be taken on by a case by case basis and consider the proportion of unauthorised absence, including previous requests. Holidays of more than 5 days (10 sessions) will not be authorised in any circumstances and fixed penalty notices will be instigated.

The Governing Body of the school supports this and will **only** authorise holidays in:

- Exceptional/special circumstances, but only when the following applies;
- Your child's attendance is at **96%** or above at the time of request for the academic year
 - There must be only 1 request for the academic year, if one holiday has been taken another will not be authorised.
 - Your child is **not sitting Y1 Phonics check, Y2 or Y6 SATs during the holiday period**

AND if you have

- **Attended the holiday meeting (following your request) with the School Staff.**

Special reasons or exceptional circumstances we may agree to:

- A dying relative in a different country
- A family funeral in another country/ part of the country
- Holidays for fostering or adoption purposes
- Religious observance
- Parent in armed forces
- Where a parent has inflexible working patterns in their career that do not coincide with school holidays (evidence from employer is required)

The school will not agree or consider the following holiday requests:

- If an application is made because it is a cheap holiday and the booking has been made in advance anyway
- If the application is based on the ability to have a desired accommodation
- Poor weather experienced in school holiday periods
- There is an overlap with the beginning or end of term
- Another sibling from another school has time off school and the school holidays do not coincide
- A special treat for your child

The above are not definitive lists but merely to be deemed as a guideline to work to and are now the basis of our school statement.

As you are aware, all children of compulsory school age (5 to 16) should receive suitable education by regular attendance at school. If a child is registered at school, you as a parent have the primary legal responsibility for ensuring that your child attends regularly. Prosecutions, fixed penalty notices and other sanctions may be imposed for the minority of parents who are simply unwilling to engage voluntarily with the school and/or the Local Authority to address their children's attendance issues - **this includes unauthorised holidays**.

***Please note:** Should you decide to take your child/ren out of school during term time, then the absence will be recorded as 'unauthorised'. In line with legislation and our school attendance statement we, as a school, may refer unauthorised leave of absence to the Education Welfare Service. Such a referral may lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued.*

The impact of a holiday in term time is significant on your child's attainment and every lesson does count. Please consider this and the above information carefully before planning or even applying for a holiday in term time. All requests must be made via our Leave of Absence Form which is available from the school office.