

REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE
DURING TERM TIME (exceptional circumstances only)

Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006
Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013

The 2013 amendments to the 2006 regulations make clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances, and that Head Teachers should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.

Name of pupil	
Date of birth	
Year group	
Address	
Contact Numbers	
Sibling Details (or other children living in the household)	

I request permission for my child to be absent from school between: -	
First Day of Absence	
Date of Return	
Total School Days	
Please fully explain the exceptional circumstances that you would like the Head teacher to consider (continue a separate sheet if necessary).	

Declaration

I have read and understood the information about leave of absence during term time, unauthorised absence, and Penalty Notices. I am aware of the possible consequences should my child take a leave of absence without the prior authorisation of the Head Teacher.

You will receive an email reply to this request, if you wish to have a paper copy sent, please tick below.

I refuse to accept email reply ☐

Signature.....
(Parent/Carer)

Date.....

Important information for Parents

Parents are required under the Education Act (1996) to ensure their child attends school regularly. There is no automatic right to take a child out of school during term time, but the law allows Head Teachers to consider individual requests to authorise a leave of absence in exceptional circumstances.

The Head Teacher must be satisfied that the exceptional circumstances justify an authorised absence, and it is entirely the responsibility of the parent submitting the request to provide sufficient information and evidence in order to establish this fact.

The request for an authorised leave of absence must be made in advance and the Head Teacher may invite the parent into school to discuss the request before a decision is made.

If the circumstances relating to this request are considered exceptional and the absence is authorised by the Head Teacher, the expectation is that child's attendance will be of a satisfactory level both prior to and after the date covered by the request.

If the request for a leave of absence is refused and the absence is recorded as unauthorised, the Head teacher may refer the matter to the Local Authority requesting a Penalty Notice be issued against you.

A Penalty Notice is £80 if paid within 21 days of receipt, rising to £160 if the notice is paid after 21 days but within 28 days. If the penalty is not paid in full by the end of the 28 day period the Local Authority may prosecute for the offence to which the notice applies.

Where there is more than one child, each parent may be issued with a Penalty Notice in respect of each child.

As a parent/carer, you can demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by not allowing your child to miss school for anything other than an exceptional and unavoidable reason. Research suggests that children who are taken out of school may never catch up on the learning they have missed, which may ultimately affect exam and test results.

What are exceptional circumstances?

Exceptional leave is **NOT**:

- Availability of cheap flights and/or holidays
- Availability of desired accommodation
- Parent/carer work commitments
- Poor weather experienced during school holiday periods
- Overlap with the beginning or end of term, half term.

Exceptional leave **MAY** be:

- Grandparent or other close relative is seriously ill – and you must leave in an emergency
- Significant trauma in the family recently and a holiday will benefit the child – this must be backed up by a doctor's letter
- A one-off, never to be repeated occasion that can only happen at that time, eg family wedding/funeral
- Service family post active duty / deployment

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Executive Head Teacher – reply

Attendance %:-

Authorised / Unauthorised

Fine to be issued Yes / No

Possible sessions: -

Actual sessions: -

Reason Code(s) 1) 2) 3)