



Ravensmead Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr D. Bell, B.Ed (Hons), M.A

Appendix 1

February 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Term-time holidays

I am writing again to remind parents of the current situation regarding term time absence and to draw your attention to **changes** made to **Ravensmead's Attendance Policy** in line with Staffordshire County Councils Education Welfare Service.

The [Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006](#) previously allowed head teachers to grant leave of absence for the purpose of a family holiday during term time in "special circumstances".

However, recent changes make clear that head teachers may **not** grant any leave of absence during term time for holidays unless there are exceptional circumstances. (See Policy Appendix 2b.)

Parents **may** receive a Penalty Notice from the Local Authority for taking their child out of school during term time without consent from the school. From September 2013 these Notices now cost £60 per child per parent if paid within 21 days and £120 if paid between 22 and 28 days.

As a school we understand the challenges that some parents face when booking holidays, particularly during school holidays. However, we believe that, in order to ensure children receive the best education and prospects, they should be in school during term time.

The Local Authority will continue to monitor all school absences during term time and support head teachers in challenging parents that do ignore the law.

Further information can be obtained from www.dfe.gov.uk, but in the first instance Parents/Carers should refer to the school website for the full Attendance Policy agreed by Ravensmead Governors in February 2016.

Yours Sincerely

D.Bell
Headteacher.

T. Wilde
Vice Chair of Governing Board
February 2016.

