

## Term -Time Leave of Absence

Changes in the law mean that head teachers can no longer grant leave of absence in term - time unless there are exceptional circumstances for the absence.

**The following reasons are NOT considered as exceptional:**

- Holidays taken in term time due to lower costs, parental work commitments or once in a life time experiences.
- Holidays abroad for the purpose of visiting a sick relative
- Holidays booked as a surprise by relatives



## Attendance Matters...

Children who attend school every day make better progress and achieve more than those who miss time at school.

**The Education Act of 1996 states that it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to ensure that all children between the ages of 5-16 years attend school on a regular basis AND on time. Failure to do this may end up with YOU being fined and taken to court.**



Lowndes Way  
Winslow  
Bucks HP18 3EN  
office@winslow.bucks.sch.uk

Tel: 01296 712296

**Headteacher: Mrs Cazz Colmer**  
**Chair of Governors: Mr David Shaw**



**'Let your light shine'**

## Attendance Leaflet

**2020-2021**

Good school attendance enables children to feel confident and happy about the school work and activities that they participate in. As a parent you can support your child to enjoy school life to the full by ensuring they attend school every day **AND** on time.

# Missing days

As a parent it is your responsibility to let the school know if your child is going to be absent. Please contact the school on the first day of an absence on 01296 712296. Messages can be left 24hrs a day. Failure to contact the school causes a lot of work for the office and can result in a home visit or the police being contacted.

## Unacceptable reasons for absence:

- Shopping
- Birthday treats
- Visiting relatives
- Non-urgent medical and dental appointments

## Remember:

The **only** acceptable reasons for non-attendance are:

- Isolation required due to COVID-19 (home learning will be provided)
- Illness
- Emergency appointments

**Government Guidelines say that attendance should be at least 95%**

# of school

## Learning missed in a school year

Your child's attendance is above 98%	<b>Amazing Attendance!</b> Your child has the very best chance of success	Well done and Keep Going!
Your child's attendance is between 95%-98%	<b>Brilliant Attendance!</b>	
Your child's attendance is between 92-95%	Be Aware. Even a few days absence make it hard for your child to catch up. Every day really does count.	As a school we are <b>very concerned</b> and will closely monitor your child's attendance and will contact you via letters and meetings
Your child's attendance is between 89-92%	Attendance at this level will start to have a detrimental effect on your child's education	
Your child's attendance is between 85-89%	The Government classes your child as Persistently Absent from school. Over the course of the year your child could miss as much as 5 weeks and 3 days of learning – that's nearly half a term!	As a school we are seriously concerned and at 80% are required to refer attendance to the Education Welfare Service
Your child's attendance is below 85%	The Government classes your child as Persistently Absent from school. Attendance below 85% has a serious effect on your child's education and may effect their chances in later life.	

# adds up...

Time missed at school can lead to gaps in knowledge, that become difficult to fill, and also places additional pressures on staff.

## Did you know?

If your child's attendance is 80%, this means your child is absent:

- 1 day **EVERY** week
- 6 days **EVERY** half term
- 12 days **EVERY** term
- 36 days **EVERY** year
- 180 days in five years.....

That's nearly **ONE WHOLE SCHOOL YEAR!**

If a child has 10 days off school in a school year, they're actually spending more days at home than at school!