

REQUEST FOR HOLIDAYS / TIME OFF

From September 2013 the Department for Education has amended the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 removing the Academy Principal's ability to authorise leave of absence for a family holiday. Requests for holidays in term-time will not be authorised as the Regulations only allow schools to authorise absence (leave) in 'exceptional circumstances'.

What action you can take if your child is absent:

Please phone / text on the first day of absence leaving your child's name, class, reason for absence and date of return.



OR

Write a letter explaining the absence, stating how long you expect your child to be absent. This should be received on the first day of absence.



If your child is still unable to return to school on the expected date of return, please contact the school again.

What action the Academy will take if your child is absent

- Text or phone you to find out the reason why your child is absent
- Send out a letter if no reply to the text or phone has been received
- If attendance falls below 90% send a further letter to let you know what action is to be taken
- If still no response, the school will take further action, which may involve parents incurring a fine

Who is here to help?

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please contact the school to discuss.

School based support:

- Class Teacher
- Academy Principal - Mrs Rebecca Hurley
- Family Support Worker - Mrs Debbie Morton

Recommended time off school for common illnesses:

Infection or complaint	Recommended period to be kept away from school
Chicken Pox	Until all vesicles have crusted over
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	48 hours after last episode
Head lice	None. Please treat at home
Conjunctivitis	None

School Attendance

A Guide for Parents and Families



Thrumpton Primary
Academy

01777 702092

Why is good attendance important?

Attending school on a regular basis is the key to children doing well at school and sets them up with good habits for later life and the working world.

It also gives children the opportunity to:

- Make lots of friends and feel included
- Learn new things and develop their skills
- Increase their confidence and self esteem
- Improve their social skills
- Be part of a school team or club
- Improve their career prospects
- Achieve their potential and fulfil their aspirations

A few small changes can make a difference

Parents are advised to:

- Show their child that they think school is very important
- Raise their child's achievements
- Not to keep their child off school if they are worried or have a problem. Instead they should talk to their child's class teacher or Mrs Hurley.
- Recognise that if children get into bad habits from an early age, these are hard to break later in life.

How good is your child's attendance?

All pupils are expected to reach attendance levels of 96% and above to be able to access and achieve their full potential at school.

This is Paul who has 90% attendance.



- Is that good?
- What does this mean?

Paul thinks this is pretty good, so do his parents. Are they right?

90% attendance =
1/2 day missed each week!
20 days in a each school year!
A full month!!

So 90% is **not** as good as it first seemed:

96% and above:	Excellent
95%-96%:	Good
90%-95%:	Be aware
80%-90%:	Worrying – Less chance of success
Less than 80%:	Serious concerns - Low chance of successes

What can I do as a parent to increase my child's attendance?

- Only grant days at home for **genuine** illness (You will know!!)
- **Avoid** taking holidays in school time
- Parents and Carers have to make sure that children aged 5-16 years receive fulltime education and that these children attend school regularly.

It's the law!

A child registered at school can legally miss school only in very limited circumstances.

These include:

- When the child is too ill to attend
- When the school has authorised the absence beforehand
- If a child is missing school without good reason, schools and local authorities have a number of legal powers that they can use.

Authorised absences include:

- Genuine illness resulting in unavoidable absence
- Religious observances
- Family bereavement

Unauthorised absences include:

- Shopping
- Having a birthday
- Oversleeping
- Holidays