



Holidays in term time

A joint Approach within the Sandy Cluster

Sandy Upper



Maple Tree



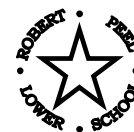
Laburnum



Moggerhanger



Robert Peel



Sandye Place



Potton Lower



John Donne



St Swithuns



A joint policy for dealing with term time holiday requests

All of the Sandy schools are working together with our Education Welfare Officer to reduce the amount of learning lost through holidays and to improve consistency throughout the schools. We aim to ensure, that in-line with legislation holidays are **only authorised in special circumstances**. Holidays which are taken during term time have detrimental effects on pupil's education.

Regulations give parents the right to **request** up to a maximum of 10 days holiday per academic year and this **should not be taken in separate intervals**. Holiday requests should be submitted with at least **four weeks notice**. Parents have the right to take a holiday; they just do not have the right to take their children out of school during term time in order for them to participate in a family holiday. Schools will consult with one another to ensure that there is consistent application of the law.

The school will consider all holiday applications and will only authorise holidays in **special** circumstances (The Education (pupil registration) England regulations 2006)

This includes:

- Service personnel - for example those in the armed forces who can only take holidays at specific times.
- When a family needs to spend time together to support one another after a crisis.

- At the discretion of the Head Teacher based upon individual **special** circumstances

The 2006 Pupil Registration Regulations state that “time off school for a family holiday is not right. It is at the discretion of the Head Teacher to grant the holiday if they believe the circumstances warrant it” (The Education (Pupil Registration) England Regulations May 2006)

Any application for a holiday in term time **must** be made before booking the holiday. You may be asked to attend a meeting to discuss this request with the Head Teacher or other senior members of staff.

Applications made by parents/carers of pupils whose attendance at the time of applying is below the school's attendance target which is usually around 95% will normally be refused.

Requests for holidays for the following reasons will **not be authorised:**

- Availability of cheap holidays
- Availability of desired accommodation
- Poor weather experienced in the school holiday period
- Overlaps with the beginning or end of term
- The holiday is during internal or external examination periods including Sats week.

If a holiday request is not authorised and the holiday is still taken then the school will inform the Education Welfare Officer who is likely to request that a Penalty Notice warning referral be made by the school. This penalty notice warning letter is issued by the Education Welfare Service and will last for the entire time that a student is on roll at that school. If another holiday is taken during that time then a Penalty Notice will be issued, this is currently £50 if paid within 28 days or £100 if paid after the 28 days but before 42 days, these are issued per parent or carer. If the penalty notice is not paid this will result in court action.

REMEMBEREvery Lesson Counts



**SCHOOLS ARE NOT OBLIGED TO PROVIDE WORK
FOR HOLIDAYS TAKEN DURING TERM TIME.**

July 2009