

# **ST. CATHERINE'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## **Appendix 1: Notes on application for a family holiday**

### **Notes on family holidays**

#### **Planning your holiday**

We publish the dates of school terms well ahead. This is to help you plan your holidays. When you book your holiday, please check that it does not clash with the school term.

#### **The value of regular attendance**

Your child must attend school regularly, especially to gain qualifications for their future employment. Research shows that pupils perform better if their parents or carers emphasise the importance of attending school.

#### **Your legal responsibilities**

You have a legal duty to make sure your child attends school regularly and punctually. The school and the Local Authority monitor your child's attendance and will take action if it is poor.

#### **Absence for a family holiday**

The Government recommends that family holidays are taken outside school terms. Headteachers will sometimes give permission for a pupil to go on holiday during term time. The Headteacher will consider the reasons for the holiday, the pupil's past attendance, and the effects the absence will have on the pupil's learning. The Headteacher will not normally give permission simply because holidays cost less during term time.

The Headteacher will not normally give permission for more than 10 days' absence for a family holiday in any school year. Only in exceptional situations will the Headteacher give permission for a longer absence.

#### **Applying for absence because of a family holiday**

If you have to take your family holiday during school term, please fill in the form over the page. Please do not assume that you will automatically

get permission for the absence because you have filled in the form. Please wait to hear if the Headteacher agrees to your request.

### **Warning**

If you take your child out of school without permission you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may refer the matter to the Education Welfare Service who may decide to prosecute. A conviction may result in a fine of up to £2,500, a prison sentence of up to three months or both. Alternatively, a penalty notice may be issued under Section 444A and 444B of the Education Act 1996. This carries a fine of £50 if paid within 28 days or £100 if paid after this but within 42 days. Failure to pay the penalty notice may result in Court action.