

“It takes a whole community, to bring up a child”



Ark Boulton Academy



November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Family Holidays in Term Time

We are working closely with other schools in our community to advise parents of the impact on children's education due to family holidays taken in term time. We advise that wherever possible, absences from school should be avoided, as it can have a serious effect on your child's education progress and can create difficulties for them on their return to school.

Holidays are **NOT** permitted in term time. Requesting holidays because it is cheaper to go in term time or for celebrations abroad are not considered a valid reason to take your child out of school. In all cases it is best to speak with the Headteacher first to understand the impact on your child missing school, as regular attendance maximises their education opportunities. Interruptions in school learning have a negative impact on their attainment.

If, after serious consideration, you still decide to take your child on holiday, it is important that you complete a 'Leave in Term Time' request form, and provide proof of travel, address where you will be staying abroad and the outbound and return tickets. This will then be passed on to the Headteacher, where a decision will be made if leave can be authorised or not. A leave in term time can only be authorised in **exceptional circumstances**.

If you still take your child out of school for a holiday it will be recorded as unauthorised absence. This may lead to the issuing of a penalty notice and legal action being taken by Birmingham Local Authority's Legal Team. These prosecutions are criminal proceedings and could result in parents having a criminal record.

Please consider your child's education before you book any holidays in term time. Remember, good attendance will mean that your child is able to achieve the best grades for their ability and have real opportunity in further education and the world of work.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

D Richards

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“Growing together, reaching higher”