



# WARRINGTON

## Borough Council

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Dear Parent/Carer,

September 2022

### **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: HOLIDAY DURING TERM TIME**

It is a government priority to improve school attendance and ensure schools tackle all forms of absences. Warrington Borough Council takes attendance matters very seriously because there is clear evidence that any absence from school can and does impact on children's attainment.

The second most common reason for absence from school is family holiday. Whilst the pandemic has meant that many families have been unable to go on holiday over the last 2 years we must stress that any holiday planned in term time will not be authorised by your children's school. Children and families have 175 days off school to spend time together, including weekends and school holidays. Schools rightly have to prioritise attendance during term time.

There is now an expectation that all schools introduce stringent checks to ensure that there is a significant reduction in the number of absences during term time. When your child drops below the minimum requirement for school attendance of 90% then they will be classified as a 'persistent absentee' and you may be liable for prosecution.

Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to warn you that any unauthorised holidays or absences during term time which result in your child becoming a persistent absentee may result in action being taken by the Attendance Team at Warrington Borough Council.

Yours sincerely

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