

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Holidays/Absences during term time

This letter is going out to all our parents to provide information about a change in policy in relation to holidays in term time.

In Wales we want all of our pupils to achieve success, so it is important that parents do their best to support pupils in attending school for the full 190 days in an academic year, as stated in the Education (School Day and School Year) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006.

Under the Education Act (1996), it is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that their son/daughter attend school.

Regular school attendance is vital and missing school can have a significant impact on achievement over a one year period as illustrated below:

95-100% attendance	Best chance of success	Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
90-95% attendance	At least 2 weeks of learning missed	Satisfactory. Your child may have to spend time catching up with work.
85-90% attendance	At least 4 weeks of learning missed	Your child may be at risk of underachieving and may need extra support from you to catch up with work.
80-85% attendance	At least 5 ½ weeks of learning missed	Your child's poor attendance has a significant impact on learning.
Below 80% attendance	At least 7½ weeks of learning missed	Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education. You are at risk of prosecution.

To support our drive to increase pupil attendance a decision has been taken by ERW, our regional Education Consortium, that no absences due to holidays during term times will be authorised by Head-Teachers. This means absences due to pupils being taken on holiday during term time will be recorded as unauthorised.

We hope that you can support this policy change and arrange your holidays around the existing 175 days the schools are closed through weekends and school holidays and help us support your child in achieving success in school.

Yours faithfully,

R.C Williams
Headteacher