



## **Absences in Term Time Policy** **April 2014**

At Romiley Primary School we believe that absences in term time are undesirable because of the impact on our pupils' education. We actively encourage parents/carers to avoid absences in term time. Should the absence be due to a child's medical need please seek advice from the School Office.

Research has shown there is clear link between levels of attendance and levels of achievement and that, in short, the more time a pupil misses school, the lower their levels of achievement are likely to be. Taking absences in term time has a disruptive effect upon pupils' learning and it is often difficult for pupils to catch up with work that has been missed. It may also suggest to some pupils that their education is not an important priority.

Legislation and guidance from the Department for Children 2013 makes it clear that schools should only approve absences exceptionally and only if satisfied that special circumstances apply which outweigh the harmful impact upon the particular pupil's education. As a result, it will be rare for absences to be approved.

If you wish to request permission to for a term time absence please complete and return an 'Absences' request form at least four weeks before the start date of the proposed absence.

Please be aware that absences taken without permission may lead to fixed penalty fines of up to £120 per parent for each pupil being issued by the Local Authority.

April 2014