



# ABINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Abingdon Road, Middlesbrough, TS1 3JR

Tel. 01642 210567 • Fax. 01642 217774 • Email [abingdon@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:abingdon@middlesbrough.gov.uk)

Chairperson of Governors, Mark White • Head Teacher, Andrea Williams



## ABSENCE POLICY- TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

The governing body wishes to emphasise the prime importance of school attendance to support pupil's progress.

### September 2013

Amendments to the 2006 regulations remove references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Head teachers should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted. ***This leave is unlikely, however, to be granted for the purposes of a family holiday.***

### **Parents can be fined for taking their child on holiday during term time without consent from the school.**

Parents have a legal duty to make sure that their child aged 5-16, if registered at a school, attends that school regularly. If taking an unauthorised term-time holiday is grounds for issuing a penalty notice according to the local authority's code, and if the leave of absence for holiday was not authorised by the school, either the school or the local authority may issue a penalty notice.

Amendments have also been made to the 2007 penalty notices regulations in the Education (Penalty Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013. These amendments came into force on 1 September 2013.

The 2013 amendments reduce the timescales for paying a penalty notice. Parents must, from September 2013, pay £60 within 21 days or £120 within 28 days. This brings attendance penalty notices into line with other types of penalty notices and allows local authorities to act faster on prosecutions

