

WHY LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN TERM TIME IS NOT AUTHORISED BY SCHOOLS

(including Groby Community College)

New government guidelines, which came into effect on 1st September 2013, prevent Headteachers from granting any leave of absence during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances. A family holiday during term-time does not fall under the category of 'exceptional circumstances' and we are therefore unable to grant leave of absence for your family holiday request.

If a student has absences recorded as a result of an unauthorised absence, Leicestershire County Council will be advised of this matter and will be requested to issue Penalty Notices in line with their policy (see below).

Guidance issued by the local authority:

"The parent(s) of any child who has absences recorded as a result of an unauthorised family holiday will each be fined £60 which must be paid within a 21 day period. Failure to pay the fine(s) within this timescale, will result in the fines being doubled to £120 which will need to be paid within 28 days of the original fine being issued. If the fine(s) remain unpaid after the full period of 28 days has expired, parents may face legal action under section 444 of the Education Act 1996. If found guilty of an offence under this Act, parents will receive a criminal record and could be fined up to £1000."

It is hoped that you will take serious consideration of the information outlined above and reconsider your plans to take a family holiday during school term-time.

Notification of Unauthorised Student Leave of Absence* in Term Time

Student Name:	Tutor Group: Year:
I am aware that leave of absence* will not be authorised, however, I wish to notify you of the days to be missed:	
Date of First Day of Absence Date of Return to College Total Number of School Days Missed (excl. weekends) Name of parent/carer taking the student on holiday: Parent/Carer Signature Date Date Date	

*Please submit an accompanying letter if you consider the absence due to exceptional circumstances

PLEASE HAND THIS FORM IN TO RECEPTION ONCE COMPLETED

ACADEMIC YEAR 2014-15

AUTUMN TERM (76 school days)

Open Thursday 28 August 2014

Teacher Day Friday 17 October 2014 (Students do not attend on this day)

Mid-Term Break Monday 20 to Friday 24 October 2014

Close Friday 19 December 2014

SPRING TERM (55 school days)

Open Monday 5 January 2015

Mid-Term Break Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February 2015

Close Friday 27 March 2015

SUMMER TERM (59 school days)

Open Monday 13 April 2015 May Day Monday 4 May 2015

Mid-Term Break Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May 2015

Close Friday 10 July 2015

ACADEMIC YEAR 2015-16

AUTUMN TERM (75 school days)

Open Thursday 27 August 2015

Teacher Day Friday 16 October 2015 (Students do not attend on this day)

Mid-Term Break Monday 19 to Friday 23 October 2015

Close Friday 18 December 2015

SPRING TERM (54 school days)

Open Monday 4 January 2016

Mid-Term Break Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February 2016

Close Thursday 24 March 2016 (Good Friday = Friday 25 March)

SUMMER TERM (64 school days)

Open Monday 11 April 2016 May Day Monday 2 May 2016

Mid-Term Break Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June 2016

Close Friday 15 July 2016