

Warton Nethersole's C.E. Primary School

<http://www.warton-nethersoles-ce-school.org/>

Head Teacher Mrs S. Bostock MA (Ed.)

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September 6th 2013

Dear Parents and Carers,

Holiday Leave Entitlement

From September 2013, the government has introduced some significant changes to attendance regulations for pupils at school, which you need to be aware of. These changes apply to all schools nationally including Academies.

The most important of these changes is in relation to term-time family holidays. The Government states, 'Amendments to the 2006 regulations remove references to family holidays and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of 10 days. The amendments make clear that Head Teachers **may not** grant any leave of absence during term-time unless there are **exceptional and unique** circumstances'.

As Heartwood Academy, the Head Teachers and Governors understand that the interpretation of 'exceptional' circumstances will vary from case to case, and any individual request will be considered. However, under the new guidelines many requests will not meet the criteria and will be recorded as unauthorised absence. We would therefore ask that you respect the regulations that we are now obliged to follow, and that if you do need to take your child out of school in term-time, you make it very clear in your request how the circumstances are exceptional. If this is not clear, the Head Teacher and Governors will not be able to grant leave.

In addition to this, there are also new regulations concerning fixed penalty fines for parents and carers who take their children out of school in unauthorised circumstances.

For more information see www.education.gov.uk

A Heartwood Church of England Academy Trust Attendance policy will follow shortly.

Thank you for your continued support.



Rob Reuter Chair of Governors

Susan Bostock Head Teacher



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