
Frequently Asked Questions



Holidays During Term Time

Children should attend school for 190 days each year, and every day is important. Please help them not to miss any of this valuable time. We hope that the answers to your questions below will show that your child's education is too important to take holidays during term time.

1. Can I take my child on holiday during term time?

As a parent/carer, you can demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by, whenever possible, taking your holidays during school holidays.

2. Will the school let me take my child away during term time?

Guidelines from the Scottish Government indicate that a family holiday may only be authorised by the school if permission is sought from the school in advance, and the holiday is 'judged to be important to the well-being and cohesion of the family, following serious or terminal illness, bereavement or other traumatic causes'. The school will carefully consider parental requests, but the holiday will be authorised only in exceptional circumstances.

3. What happens if the school does not agree?

If the school does not agree, your child's absence will be marked as "unauthorised" in the school register, in the same category as truancy.

4. Why shouldn't I take my child away during term time?

- It is important that children attend school regularly if they are to benefit from the learning opportunities provided.
- While the child is on holiday, the remainder of the class continue to be taught by the teacher, studying new topics and revising. Children who are absent from school due to a holiday in term time will miss out on important learning. They may never catch up. This will have an adverse impact on their progress and on their examination results.
- Teachers will not be able to provide work in advance, unless the holiday is authorised by the school. Teachers have a fixed amount of time to spend with pupils and try to use it wisely. They will always do their best to support pupils who have been absent through illness, or have been on an educational activity arranged with the approval of the school. Time spent in helping a child catch up after a holiday is time which is taken away from other pupils.

5. Who can I speak to about this?

Please contact Pastoral Care staff or senior staff if you wish to discuss this issue.

King's Park Secondary School
14 Fetlar Drive
Glasgow G44 5BL
Telephone: 0141 582 0150
