



NETHERTHORPE SCHOOL

SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS COLLEGE

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Headteacher
Mr D Williams

NCO/vw/ExcpAbs

1st March 2019

Dear Parent / Guardian

School Attendance and Absence

The department for Education expects schools and local authorities to promote good attendance and reduce absences, including persistent absence. This is because we know that missing out on lessons leaves young people vulnerable to falling behind. Young people with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary schools.

As a school we work incredibly hard to support young people and their families to ensure that they all have good attendance.

The Government recently made amendments to the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 which came into force on **1st September 2013**. These state that Headteachers **may not grant** any leave of absence for holidays during the term time unless there are exceptional circumstances; in these cases it is the Headteacher who determines the number of days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.

As a consequence of these changes we will no longer be able to approve requests for leave of absence for reasons that are **not** considered to be special or exceptional.

Parents needing leave of absence for **exceptional circumstances** should complete a form which is available from the school office or school website, at least two weeks before the anticipated start date. The reason for request should be given in detail. Applications should be made before the leave is arranged as absences will not be granted retrospectively.

I would like to remind parents that this is Government policy and parents who take their children on holiday without permission will incur unauthorised absences for their child. These remain on the child's record and will be monitored for further action by the School Attendance Officer. Parents could be issued with a fixed penalty notice and/or court action.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Williams
Headteacher