

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

### **Important Information for Parents/Carers**

The Education Act (1996) requires parents to ensure their child attends school. There is no automatic right to take your child out of school during term time. The Law does however allow Head Teachers to consider individual requests to authorise a Leave of Absence in an **Exceptional Circumstance** and only if it is exceptional.

The Head Teacher must be satisfied that the circumstance is exceptional to justify an authorised absence. It is the parent's responsibility when submitting the request to provide all the information and evidence to prove an exceptional circumstance.

The request for authorised Leave of Absence must be made at least two weeks in advance and the Head Teacher may invite the parent/carer(s) into school to discuss the request before a decision is made. The application form can be obtained from the school.

If the Head Teacher authorises the Leave of Absence it is expected that the child's attendance will be of a satisfactory level both prior and after the date covered by the request.

If the Head Teacher refuses Leave of Absence and the absence is recorded as unauthorised, the Head Teacher may refer the matter to the Local Authority requesting that a Penalty Notice be issued.

A Penalty Notice is £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days. If the penalty is not paid in full by the end of the 28 day period the Local Authority may prosecute for the offence to which the notice applies. Where there is more than one child, each parent may be issued with a Penalty Notice in respect of each child.

Research suggests that children who are absent from School may never catch up on the learning they have missed, which may ultimately affect exam and test results. As a parent/carer, you can demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by not allowing your child to miss school for anything other than an exceptional and unavoidable reason.

## HENSHAW CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

### REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE - DURING TERM TIME

#### Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006

#### Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013

The 2013 amendments to the 2006 regulations explain clearly that the Head Teacher may not grant any leave of absence during term time other than in an exceptional circumstance. The Head Teacher will also determine the number of school days the student(s) can be away from school if leave is granted.

<b>Name of pupil</b>	
<b>Date of birth</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Tutor/Year group</b>	
<b>Contact Numbers</b>	

I request permission for my child to be granted leave of absence from school between:-

<b>First Day of Absence</b>	
<b>Date of Return</b>	
<b>Total School Days</b>	

Please fully explain the **exceptional circumstances** relating to the leave of absence you would like the Head Teacher to consider. (*Continue on a separate sheet if necessary*).

#### **Declaration**

I have read and understood the information regarding leave of absence during term time, unauthorised absence, and Penalty Notices. I am aware of the possible consequences of my child being absent without leave of absence being granted or authorised by the Head Teacher.

**Signature**.....

**Date**.....