

### Attendance Matters:

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving you the best possible start in life.

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent days	Equivalent weeks
95%	9	2
90%	19	4
85%	29	6
80%	38	8
75%	48	10
70%	57	11.5

### Every Minute Counts:

If children arrive late to school every day, their learning begins to suffer. Reception classes learn their letter sounds (phonics) in the mornings, Year 1 and 2 split into reading and phonics groups. Higher up the school, the children get their starter activities for the day/week and split into their intervention groups. If they miss these groups regularly, their reading will inevitably suffer.

### Over to you...

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

### Contact Us:

If you have any questions about attendance, please speak to Miss Grange, the Attendance Officer.

Phone: 01227 373095

Email: [office1@briary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office1@briary.kent.sch.uk)



Holidays  
During  
Term Time

Briary  
Primary  
School



Briary Primary School  
Greenhill Road West  
Herne Bay  
CT6 7RS

*Widening Horizons  
Raising Aspirations*

## The Decision

In making the decision whether to grant term time holiday for a child, consideration will be given to exceptional circumstances.

### The following reasons will not be granted as exceptional circumstances:

- Availability of cheaper holidays
- Availability of accommodation
- Better weather
- Overlap with the beginning/end of term
- Relatives/ friends having different term dates
- Work commitments

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*Holidays during term  
time may be cheaper  
BUT...*

*Your child's education is  
priceless*

## What you need to consider:

- Research suggests that children who are taken out of school may not be able to 'catch up' on the work they have missed. This may affect a child's learning and progress.
- Children who struggle with English or Maths may find it even more difficult when they return.
- Some children may struggle to renew friendships with their classmates when they return.
- If a child misses the beginning of a school year or term, they may find it difficult to settle in and may struggle with unfamiliar class routines.
- Please consider the unspoken message you are giving your child by letting them think it is acceptable to miss school.
- Teachers and School staff work very hard at Briary and always try to support children to catch up and feel secure when they have missed work but this takes time away from other students.

### If it is absolutely unavoidable...

Please put your request in writing addressed to the head teacher. This request must be made in advance.

## What does the law say?

Parents/carers do not have an automatic right to take their child out of school for holidays during term time.

From September 2013 the Department for Education has amended the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 removing the Head Teacher's ability to authorise leave of absence for a family holiday. Requests for holidays in term-time will **not** be authorised as the Regulations only allow the Head Teacher to authorise absence (leave) in "exceptional circumstances".

### The School's Attendance Policy confirms that:

- Agreement to each request is at the Head Teacher's discretion, acting on behalf of the Governing Body
- Each case will be judged on its merits
- The Head Teacher's decision is final
- Leave cannot be authorised retrospectively

### Penalty Notices:

**We will make an application for a penalty notice to be issued if holidays are taken during term time**

Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each child and the amount of the penalty will be £120 to be paid within 28 days, reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days. Failure to pay the penalty in full at the end of the 28 day period may result in prosecution by the Attendance and Behaviour Service.