November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Applications for leave of absence for family holiday

This letter is to advise parents about any application for absence from the Skegness Academy due to a family holiday.

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England)(Amendment) Regulations 2013 removed the reference to holidays during term time and now provides that a leave of absence during term time will only be granted where an application is made in advance to the school and the school consider that the leave of absence should be granted due to exceptional circumstances relating to that application.

Should you fail to apply in advance for absence due to family holiday or other circumstance then this will be recorded as unauthorised absence. If it has been decided that any holiday applied for does not constitute 'exceptional circumstances', then your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 places upon parents a duty to ensure their child receives suitable efficient full-time education either by regular attendance at a school or education otherwise. Section 444(1)(a) of the same Act states that where a parent of a child who knowingly and without reasonable justification fails to ensure regular attendance of a registered pupil at that school, the parent of the child shall be guilty of an offence against that Section. The Local Authority may, where necessary, institute legal proceedings in the Magistrates Court under this section of the Education Act 1996 against those parents concerned. Alternatively, Section 444B of the same Act empowers the Local Education Authority to issue a Fixed Penalty of up to £120.00 per parent, per child. This letter is a formal Fixed Penalty Warning should you cause your child to be absent from the Skegness Academy without authorisation.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Gissendorf
Principal