



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. Research suggests that children who are taken out of school may never catch up on the learning they have missed, which may ultimately affect exam and test results.

The Head teacher must be satisfied that the exceptional circumstances justify an authorised absence, and it is entirely the responsibility of the parent submitting the request to provide sufficient information and evidence to establish this fact.

The request for an authorised leave of absence must be made in advance and the Head teacher may invite the parent into school to discuss the request before a decision is made.

If the circumstances relating to this request are considered exceptional and the absence is authorised by the Head teacher, the expectation is that child’s attendance will be of a satisfactory level both prior to and after the date covered by the request.

If the request for a leave of absence is refused and the absence is recorded as unauthorised, the Head teacher may refer the matter to the Local Authority requesting a Penalty Notice be issued against you.

A Penalty Notice is a fine of £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt, rising to £120 if the notice is 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.

**Appendix 2. Appletree Gardens First School Request for leave of absence during term time**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of pupil |  |
| Date of birth |  |
| Tutor\ Year Group |  |
| Address |  |
| Contact Numbers |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| I request permission for my child to be absent from school between | From  Date | To  Date | Number of school days missed: |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Please fully explain in the box below the exceptional circumstances that you would like the Head teacher to consider: |
|  |

Declaration

I have read and understood the information about leave of absence during term time, unauthorised absence, and Penalty Notices. I am aware of the possible consequences should my child take a leave of absence without the prior authorisation of the Head teacher.

Signature Date

(Parent/Carer)

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**To be completed by the school office:**

Pupil attendance for the previous academic year:

Pupil attendance for the current academic year, to date:

To be completed by the headteacher: Decision