



Beeston Primary School

Town Street, Leeds, LS11 8PN

"Engage, Enjoy, Enrich, Excel"

21st June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well and enjoying this lovely weather.

I've recently had parents asking permission to take their children away during term-time and wanted to clarify the school's stance on this matter.

I fully understand and appreciate the reasons for taking a family holiday during school time. I wish I could too. With the cost of living crisis continuing, it is far cheaper to travel during term time and it saddens me how much more expensive it is during the school holidays.

As a school, we are instructed to adhere to Leeds City Council's policy and procedures. You can find a copy of this on the school's website. It states that schools cannot authorise any holidays (there are no exceptions to this rule), during term-time and that it may lead to a fixed-term penalty notice being issued by the local authority. In addition, if your child's attendance falls below 90% for the school year, your child will be classed as persistently absent from school and their attendance will be closely monitored by school in accordance with the school's Fast Track attendance procedures. If no improvement is recorded, this may also lead to a fixed penalty notice being issued. If a family is fined, please can I remind you that this is legally actioned by Leeds City Council and not by school, any financial gains are kept by Leeds City Council and not passed on to the school. Therefore, to dispel any playground rumours, Beeston Primary does not make money by fining parents.

Asking the Office Team to speak to me or writing to me will sadly not change this decision, as I'm sure you understand that as an employee of Leeds City Council, I too must adhere to the correct policy. Furthermore, the Governing Board continue to be committed to following this practice, ensuring that all pupils make the most of their learning at school, every day.

A parent recently queried why they must complete a leave of absence form when requesting a holiday in term time, if it will be declined anyway. In accordance with our safeguarding procedures, it is still very important to complete this form, as it allows our attendance team to know that your child is safe and well so there is no need for them to complete a home visit.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Best wishes,

Mr Edensor
Headteacher
On behalf on the Governing Board

Headteacher- Mr. N. Edensor

Tel. No: 0113 2716978

Email: mainoffice@beestonprimary.org

www.beestonprimaryschool.co.uk