



School Attendance and Absence Policy

Reviewed: Sept 2023 Next Review: Sept 2024

DOCUMENT ORIGINS			
Organisation	Walter Halls Primary School	Version date	September 2023
Owner (s)	Jo Glover	Approved by (If applicable)	
Senior leader responsible for the strategic approach to attendance at school	Emma Beardah		
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DOCUMENT VERSION HISTORY		
Revision date	Author of changes	Summary of changes

Statement of intent

School attendance is everyone's responsibility. Walter Halls School believes that in order to facilitate teaching and learning, good attendance is essential. Pupils cannot achieve their full potential if they do not regularly attend school.

We understand that barriers to attendance are complex, and that some pupils find it harder than others to attend school; therefore, we will continue to prioritise cultivating a safe and supportive environment at school, as well as strong and trusting relationships with pupils and parents.

We take a whole-school approach to securing good attendance and recognise the impact that our efforts in other areas – such as the curriculum, behaviour standards, bullying, SEND support, pastoral support, and the effective use of resources such as pupil premium – can have on improving pupil attendance.

We are committed to:

- Promoting and modelling high attendance and its benefits.
- Ensuring equality and fairness for all.
- Ensuring this attendance policy is clear and easily understood by staff, pupils and parents.
- Intervening early and working with other agencies to ensure the health and safety of our pupils.
- Building strong relationships with families to overcome barriers to attendance.
- Working collaboratively with other schools in the area, as well as other agencies.
- Ensuring parents follow the framework set in section 7 of the Education Act 1996, which states that the parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause them to receive efficient full-time education suitable to their age, ability and aptitude, and to any SEND they may have, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.
- Regularly monitoring and analysing attendance and absence data to identify pupils or cohorts that require more support.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education Act 1996
- Equality Act 2010
- The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (As amended)
- The Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014
- Children and Young Persons Act 1963
- DfE (2022) 'Working together to improve school attendance'
- DfE (2022) 'Keeping children safe in education 2022'
- DfE (2016) 'Children missing education'

2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing body has overall responsibility for:

- Monitoring the implementation of this policy and all relevant procedures across the school.
- Promoting the importance of good attendance through the school's ethos and policies.
- Working with the SLT to set goals for attendance and providing support and challenge around delivery against those goals.
- Regularly reviewing attendance data.
- Sharing effective practice on attendance management and improvement across schools.
- Ensuring that this policy, as written, does not discriminate on any grounds, including, but not limited to, ethnicity/national origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation.
- Handling complaints regarding this policy as outlined in the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.
- Having regard to 'Keeping children safe in education' when making arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- The day-to-day implementation and management of this policy and all relevant procedures across the school.
- Appointing a member of the SLT to be an 'Attendance Champion'. (Jo Glover)
- Ensuring all parents are aware of the school's attendance expectations and procedures.
- Ensuring that every pupil has access to full-time education and will act as early as possible to address patterns of absence.

Staff are responsible for:

- Following this policy and ensuring pupils do so too.
- Ensuring this policy is implemented fairly and consistently.
- Modelling good attendance behaviour.

- Using their professional judgement and knowledge of individual pupils to inform decisions as to whether any welfare concerns should be escalated.
- Where designated, taking the attendance register at the relevant times during the school day.
- Form positive relationships with families and build trust between school and home.
- Rewarding good attendance.
- Ensuring that children feel safe and happy to attend school

The attendance team is responsible for:

- The overall strategic approach to attendance in school.
- Developing a clear vision for improving attendance.
- Monitoring attendance and the impact of interventions.
- Analysing attendance data and identifying areas of intervention and improvement.
- Providing attendance data and analysis for Governor reports.
- Communicating with pupils and parents with regard to attendance.
- Communicating with the school's allocated EWO with regard to attendance
- Following up on incidents of persistent poor attendance.
- Home visits where appropriate to support with attendance monitoring.
- Informing the LA of any pupil being deleted from the admission and attendance registers.
- Assisting parents and pupils with problems and barriers which may affect school attendance
- Rewarding good attendance
- Referring to other agencies when there are causes for concern

Pupils are responsible for:

- Recognising the reasons for good attendance and punctuality at an age appropriate level.
- Attending their lessons and any agreed activities when at school.
- Lining up in their class line as soon as the teacher is present (8.40am)

Parents are responsible for:

- Bringing their children to school on a regular basis and for them to be prepared for their day when they arrive.
- Arriving on time.
- Promoting good attendance with their children.
- Informing the school office for the reason for any absence on the first morning of the absence.
- Providing accurate and up-to-date contact details.

- Providing the school with more than one emergency contact number.
- Updating the school if their details change.

Family support worker is responsible for:

- Supporting children and families with regard to establishing good school routines to support attendance.
- Making home visits as required.

Education Welfare Service are responsible for:

- Providing a communication link between school and the Local Authority (LA)
- Helping parents to understand their legal responsibilities and rights within the Education system
- Advising parents who to contact within the LA for specialised assistance.
- Liaising with identified school staff
- Undertaking home visits, either pre-arranged or without notice as considered necessary on receipt of a detailed referral.
- Instigating legal proceedings on behalf of the LA including parental prosecutions in the Magistrates' Court and if deemed appropriate, apply for Education Supervision Orders through the Family Court.
- Planning and reviewing casework.
- Providing feedback to schools.
- Offering strategic/policy advice, support and training in relation to matters of attendance and absence from school.
- Working together with schools in the management and promotion of improving school attendance.
- Advise and support schools in the use of penalty notices and parenting contracts within the provisions of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003.
- Hold termly targeted support meetings

3. Definitions

The following definitions apply for the purposes of this policy:

Absence:

- Arrival at school after the register has closed
- Not attending school for any reason

Authorised absence:

- An absence for sickness for which the school has granted leave
- Medical or dental appointments which unavoidably fall during school time, for which the school has granted leave
- Religious or cultural observances for which the school has granted leave
- An absence due to a family emergency (Evidence will be required)

Unauthorised absence:

- Parents keeping children off school unnecessarily and/or without an authorised reason
- Absences which have never been explained
- Arrival at school after the register has closed
- Absence due to shopping, looking after other children or birthdays etc.
- Absence due to day trips and holidays in term-time which have not been agreed
- Leaving school for no reason during the day

Persistent absence (PA):

- Missing 10% or more of schooling across the year for any reason

Severely Absent

- Missing 50% or more of schooling across the year for any reason

4. Attendance expectations

The school has high expectations for pupils' attendance and punctuality and ensures that these expectations are communicated regularly to parents and pupils.

Pupils will be expected to attend school punctually every day they are required to be at school, for the full day.

The school day starts at **8:45am**, and pupils should be in their classroom, ready to begin lessons at this time. Teachers will greet their children at **8.40am** so all children should be on site by this time.

Registers will be taken as follows throughout the school day:

- The morning register will be marked by **8:55am**. Pupils will receive a late mark if they are not in their classroom by this time. Pupils attending after this time will receive a mark to show that they were on site, but this will count as a late mark signing in
- The morning register will close at **9:10am** Pupils will receive a mark late after register closes mark (U code) which denotes as an **unauthorised absence**
- The afternoon registers are taken as soon as each year group returns to their classroom following their hour lunch break.

WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

0 – 2 DAYS OFF	99-100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge consistent weeks and 100% weeks • Discuss overall class attendance and offer praise to movers • 96% attendees to be discussed with Attendance Team
4 – 7.5 DAYS OFF	96- 98%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request notes for unauthorised absences and update relevant systems • Talk with parents and children regarding attendance levels dropping • Trigger first attendance letter for children falling within 96-98% attendance category and phone call home •
9.5 – 17 DAYS OFF	93-95%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge improvement in attendance for the children who have moved into this category from the below categories • Weekly check ins in school • School to consider complete home visit • School to consider Early Help assessment to highlight barriers to learning and offer support (<i>requirement for LA</i>) • School to develop an attendance plan with parent at a parent meeting (<i>requirement for LA</i>) – <i>second letter to be sent</i>
19 – 25 DAYS OFF	90-92%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge improvement in attendance for the children who have moved into this category from the below categories • At 90% - letter to parents advising them that EWS will be informed of their child's attendance • At Targeted Support Meeting discuss individual students; agree Attendance Panels. • School to complete EWS referral for suitable cases. Education Welfare Specialist to approve referrals. • School to maintain contact with the family and continue with their attendance procedures; telephone calls, home visits etc
Under 89%	Under 89%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge improvements in attendance

27 + DAYS OFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to parent/s informing them that a referral has been made to EWS • EWS procedure begins • Attendance Panel. Education Welfare Officer to attend. • School to maintain contact with the family and continue with their attendance procedures; telephone calls, home visits etc.
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5. Absence procedures

Illness and other legitimate reasons.

Parents will be required to contact the school office via telephone-9150045 or by ParentMail on the first day of their child's absence – they will be expected to provide an explanation for the absence and an estimation of how long the absence will last, e.g. one school day.

Class Dojo is not to be used to inform school of a child's absence.

The school will decide in **all** cases whether to authorise an absence on the basis of the evidence available.

Holidays in term time (family holidays)

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 state that schools can no longer grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

If families, choose to take their child out of school during term time for an unauthorised holiday/leave of absence they will be referred to Education Welfare for a penalty notice to be issued.

- Penalty notices are issued per parent per child. They are £60 if paid within 21 days rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but before 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid then the Local Authority may instigate legal proceedings against you under section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996. If found guilty of this offence you could be fined up to £1000
- A referral will be made for a Penalty Notice to be issued if the school is informed or suspect that a family has been on holiday whilst suggesting to the school another reason of absence. **It will be up to the family to prove that they have not taken a family vacation**
- Children/young people taken out of school for a holiday will have the non-attendance recorded as an unauthorised absence 'G' code
- A child or young person who does not return to school at the end of the recorded unauthorised holiday date will initially be subject to enquiries being made by the school.

- If after ten days of the expected return date, the child/young person has still not returned to school, a referral will be made to the Education Welfare Service for further enquiries to be made.
- Following the above information, if a parent/carer still intends to take their child on holiday during term time, they have a duty to inform the school of this action and give at least 6 weeks' notice of the event
- Parent/carers must complete a 'Leave of Absence' form, obtained from the school office (Appendix 1)

Responding to non-attendance

The following actions may be applied when addressing concerns around non-attendance to all pupils:

- A ParentMail text will be sent out, **followed by a telephone call if contact is not made by the parent.**
- Failure to inform the school of reasons of absence will result in an unauthorised absence being recorded. A second message will be sent explaining this.
- If face to face or telephone contact appears to be deliberately avoided, we will, as a school, consider unannounced home visits
- Teacher may contact parents if a child has 3 days of absence within a half term to discuss if there are any problems or concerns that they could support with. These 3 days do not have to be consecutive but should also give parents more of an insight into gaps in learning and the knock-on effect these days can have.
- Pupil attendance is reviewed every week.

Persistent Absentees

All pupils with an attendance rate of **90%** and below are considered as persistent absentees and will be closely monitored. The following actions are highly probable for such cases:

- A phone call will be made to parents to explore the reasons for the persistent absence and to find out what support is needed to improve.
- A letter will be sent out to inform parents of the actions if their child's attendance remains or continues to fall below 90%
- Further absences will be unauthorised unless one of the following is shown to school: a medical certificate, a letter from a medical practitioner, dated prescribed medication or an appointment slip/text message.
- Parents/carers will be invited to attend an attendance meeting in school if there is little or no improvement in their child's attendance. This may require parents to work alongside our Family Support Worker to improve their child's attendance and routines.
- An Attendance Improvement Plan will be put in place and reviewed. A copy will be given to parents.
- Parents/carers will be invited to attend a formal review with our Deputy Head Teacher and Education Welfare Officer if attendance shows no improvement
- Removal of F1 placement will be considered
- A formal request for intervention will be made to the Education Welfare Service for legal action to be considered

- For any child whose attendance falls below **60%** - agencies will take full account of all that is known about the child and consider completing a Multi-Agency Referral Form (MARF) for additional support from Children's Social Care
- Whenever possible, the school's Attendance Leads and/or Family Support Worker will offer support and guidance to avoid poor attendance levels. Looking at alternative support to help avoid those external barriers preventing a parent from bringing a child to school.

Lateness

Registration periods last for 20 minutes after which time the register will close. Any pupil arriving after the start time, but within the twenty minutes will be recorded as an 'L' code which signifies late.

Any pupil arriving after the 20 minutes will be recorded as 'U' code which signifies that they arrived after the official close of the register, which denotes an unauthorised absence.

Issues relating to punctuality will initially be addressed with the parents/carers in the following ways:

- If there are 2 or more lates in a one-week period, parents will receive a text message
- If this occurs for 3 occasions, a call will be made to parents to discuss
- If no improvement is made, parents will be informed that we will monitor lateness with U codes
- If there is still no improvement, formal meetings in school will be arranged where attendance targets will be agreed.
- If The Local Authority will be asked to issue a Penalty Notice on the school's behalf for any pupil registered late (recorded as U) 10 sessions or more in a six-week period.
- The school may request that a Penalty Notice is issued where there has been persistently lateness that results in unauthorised absences being recorded.

Safeguarding/leave of absence in term time/extended leave of absence

Any safeguarding issues pertaining to a child being taken out of school in circumstances that cause concern will be addressed directly to the Social Care Duty Team via a Multi-Agency Referral Form (MARF).

Any child absent from school for more than 20 days will be referred to the Children Missing Education(CME) team after all relevant checks made by school.

Children Missing Education (CME)

Early intervention is necessary to identify the existence of any underlying safeguarding risk and to help prevent the risks of a child going missing in future. Staff should be aware of their school's unauthorised absence and children missing from education procedures and Attendance Policy:

- Parents are expected to contact school on the first day of absence
- School will contact parents if no reason of absence has been given to school, initially by School Comms text, if there are attendance, welfare or safeguarding concerns this will also include a telephone call
- School Comms text and phone call if no contact has been made, on the previous day, additional emergency contact numbers will also be called

- Potential home visit if no contact is made, and contact made with any additional agencies who are working with the family (who may be in a better position to visit the family)
- Referral to CME if information is gained that the family have moved out of area
- Referral to CME if child has not returned after 10 days with no contact from the family after efforts made by school, if we believe the child should or may be removed from roll whether the onward school is known or not
- The Children Missing Education (CME) Officer within the Education Welfare Service will work closely with the school to try to identify the child's current whereabouts/destination
- Both parties will then agree an appropriate time and category to remove the child from the school roll. This includes those children and young people who are expected to move swiftly into appropriate provision; this is in line with The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2016
- After 20 school days of absence and efforts by both the school and CME to find the child prove unsuccessful, the CME Officer will consult the school to discuss whether to remove their name from the school roll. The final decision about removal from a school roll remains with the Headteacher following consultation with the Local Authority via CME
- The school will create a 'lost pupil' record on the national Lost Pupil's Database School to School (s2s) to assist future schools and Children Missing from Education Officers to identify and locate children
- It is the duty of both the Education Welfare Service and school to collaborate in finding the pupil before deleting them from the register
- For further information please contact the CME Officers directly - cme.educationwelfare@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

6. Attendance register

The school uses SIMS to keep attendance registers to ensure they are as accurate as possible and can be easily analysed and shared with the appropriate authorities.

Designated staff members will take the attendance register at the start of each school day and at the start of the afternoon session. This register will record whether pupils are:

- Present.
- Absent.
- Attending an approved educational visit.
- Unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances.

The school will use the national attendance codes to ensure attendance and absence are monitored and recorded in a consistent way. The following codes will be used:

- / = Present in the morning
- \ = Present in the afternoon
- L = Late arrival before the register has closed
- C = Leave of absence granted by the school
- E = Excluded but no alternative provision made
- H = Authorised holiday
- I = Illness

- M = Medical or dental appointments
- R = Religious observance
- B = Off-site education activity
- G = Unauthorised holiday
- O = Unauthorised absence
- U = Arrived after registration closed
- N = Reason not yet provided
- X = Not required to be in school
- T = Gypsy, Roma and Traveller absence
- V = Educational visit or trip
- P = Participating in a supervised sporting activity
- D = Dual registered – at another educational establishment
- Y = Exceptional circumstances
- Z = Pupil not on admission register

When the school has planned in advance to be fully or partially closed, the code ‘#’ will be used for the relevant pupils who are absent. This code will also be used to record year groups who are not due to attend because the school has set different term dates for different years, e.g. induction days.

All amendments made to the attendance register will include the original entry, the amended entry, the reason for the amendment, the date of amendment and the name and role of the person who made the amendment.

Every entry received into the attendance register will be preserved for three years.

7. Authorising parental absence requests

Leave of absence

At Walter Halls School we request that all applications for leave of absence must be made 6 weeks in advance by the parents/carers or corporate parent that the pupil normally resides with. We request that a Leave of Absence form (see Appendix 1) and a conversation with the attendance team be completed. Then, a written response will be provided.

Any leave of absence granted by the school is recorded as authorised absence using the appropriate national code. Periods that are refused are recorded as unauthorised absences. At Walter Halls School, when considering such requests we take into account the following:

- Circumstances of the request
- Purpose of the leave
- The pupil’s general absence/attendance record over the last twelve months
- The amount of time requested
- Length of the proposed leave
- The proximity to SATs
- General welfare of the pupil

As mentioned, such requests receive a response in writing that addresses the following points:

- The expected date of return
- That the parents are expected to contact the school if anything delays the pupil returning to school when expected
- What action will be taken if the pupil fails to return when expected
- Additional family contact numbers/email addresses

A letter will be sent out should a request be refused. This will state what action will be taken if the parents/carers ignore the refusal and keep their child away; (Appendix 2) with a follow up letter after their return stating that a referral will be made to the Education Welfare Service for a request for service and/or a penalty notice to be issued (Appendix 3)

Healthcare appointments

Parents will be expected to make medical or dental appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. Where this is not possible and appointments need to be made during school hours, parents will be expected to provide proof of appointments (appointment cards, letters, texts, emails etc.) to obtain approval for their child's absence to attend such appointment. Parents will be responsible for ensuring their child misses only the amount of time necessary to attend the appointment.

Religious observance

Parents will be expected to request absence for religious observance at least two weeks in advance where possible. School recognises that the observance of Eid varies according to moon sightings in different parts of the world.

In Nottingham city one day for each religious festival should be counted as authorised absence. The Pupil Regulations 2006 state that absence for religious observance should be treated as authorised (absence) *'on a day exclusively set apart for religious observance by the religious body to which the parent belongs'*. Additional days off for shopping or for extended celebrations should be treated as unauthorised absence.

In respect of pilgrimages, school may request to see copies of visas. Dates of return should also be agreed prior to the period of leave.

8. SEND- and health-related absences

Walter Halls School recognises that pupils with SEND and/or health conditions, including mental health issues, may face greater barriers to attendance than their peers, and will incorporate robust procedures to support pupils who find attending school difficult.

The school will ensure that reasonable adjustments are made for disabled pupils to reduce barriers to attendance, in line with any EHC plans or IHPs that have been implemented. The school will secure additional support from external partners to help bolster attendance where appropriate.

Where the school has concerns that a pupil's non-attendance may be related to mental health issues, parents will be contacted to discuss the issue and whether there are any contributory factors to their child's lack of attendance. Where staff have a mental health concern about a pupil that is also a safeguarding concern, they will inform the DSL and the Child Protection

and Safeguarding Policy will be followed. All pupils will be supported with their mental health in accordance with the school's Mental Health Policy.

Managing absences of pupils with health care needs

- Parents are advised to contact the school on the first day their child is unable to attend due to illness
- Absences of pupils with health care needs will not be authorised unless the family has had prior discussion with school staff about the challenges and difficulties presented by their child's needs; this will enable school to understand the context and complexity of their child's additional health care needs. Walter Hall School is committed to supporting all children regardless of their needs and is very much interested in offering support, guidance and referral to the relevant agencies
- Absences of known pupils due to health needs will be authorised (using the relevant codes) unless the school has genuine cause for concern which will trigger attendance and/or safeguarding procedures
- The school will continue to provide support to pupils who are absent from school because of health needs by liaising with the pupil's parents to arrange schoolwork as soon as the pupil is able to cope with it and if available facilitate online access to the curriculum from home
- To help ensure a pupil with additional health needs is able to attend school following an extended period of absence, a personalised or part-time timetable will be considered. Agreed periods of absence due to a part-time education timetable will be recorded with a C code for pupils of compulsory school age and an X code for non-compulsory school aged pupils

The school will incorporate an action plan to help any pupils with SEND and/or health issues cope with the stress and anxiety that attending school may cause them. Such plans will be regularly monitored and reviewed until the pupil is attending school as normal and there has been signs of significant improvement.

To support the attendance of pupils with SEND and/or health issues, the school will consider:

- Holding termly meetings to evaluate any implemented reasonable adjustments.
- Incorporating a pastoral support plan.
- Carrying out strengths and difficulties questionnaire.
- Identifying pupils' unmet needs through the Early Help Assessment
- Using an internal or external specialist.
- Enabling a pupil to have a reduced timetable for a limited time.
- Ensuring a pupil can have somewhere quiet to spend lunch and break times.
- Implementing a system whereby pupils can request to leave a classroom if they feel they need time out.
- Temporary late starts or early finishes.
- Phased returns to school where there has been a long absence.
- Small group work or one-to-one lessons.
- Tailored support to meet their individual needs.

9. Working with parents to improve attendance

The school will work to cultivate strong, respectful relationships with parents and families to ensure their trust and engagement. Open and honest communication will be maintained with pupils and their families about the expectations of school life, attendance and performance so that they understand what to expect and what is expected of them. The school will liaise with other agencies working with pupils and their families to support attendance, e.g. social services.

The school will ensure that there are two sets of emergency contact details for each pupil wherever possible to ensure the school has additional options for getting in touch with adults responsible for a pupil where the pupil is absent without notification or authorisation.

The school will ensure that parents are aware of their legal duty to ensure that their child attends school regularly and to facilitate their child's legal right to a full-time education – parents will be made aware that this means their child must attend school every day that it is open, save for in certain circumstances, e.g. sickness or absences that have been authorised by the Headteacher in advance. The school will regularly inform parents about their child's levels of attendance, absence and punctuality, and will ensure that parents are aware of the benefits that regular attendance at school can have for their child educationally, socially and developmentally.

If a pattern of absence becomes problematic, the attendance team will work collaboratively with the pupil and their parents to improve attendance by addressing the specific barriers that prevent the pupil from being able to attend school regularly. The school will always take into consideration the sensitivity of some of the reasons for pupil absence and will approach families to offer support rather than immediately reach for punitive approaches.

Where these barriers are related to the pupil's experience in school, e.g. bullying, the attendance team will work with the Headteacher and any relevant school staff, e.g. the DSL and SENCO, to address this. Where the barriers are outside of the school's control, e.g. they are related to issues within the pupil's family, the attendance team will liaise with any relevant external agencies or authorities, e.g. children's social care or the LA, and will encourage parents to access support that they may need.

Appendix List

1. Pupil Leave of Absence Form
2. Refusal of Leave of Absence Letter
3. Unauthorised Leave of Absence Follow up Letter

Appendix 1

Walter Halls Primary & Early Years School Request for Absence



Any child taking an UNAUTHORISED absence in term time may be issued with a £60 penalty notice payable within 21 days (or £120 within 28 days) per child, per parent.

Child's name: _____ Class: _____

Child's name: _____ Class: _____

Child's name: _____ Class: _____

Child's name: _____ Class: _____

I wish to request the following leave of absence

First date of absence: _____ Last day of absence: _____

Total number of days absent: _____

Please give a full explanation of why you consider the absence request to be an exceptional circumstance (Continue on back of sheet if you need more space).

Due to the change in Government legislation that came into effect on 1st September 2013, I am no longer able to authorise absences including holiday in term time unless they are in exceptional circumstances.

If an absence is not authorised you could be at risk of receiving a Penalty Notice.

A Penalty Notice is a fixed fine issued by Nottingham City Council at the school's request. The fine will be £60 if paid within 21 days or £120 if paid within 28 days. A Penalty Notice can be issued to each parent for each child. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice could result in prosecution through the courts.

I am aware that I may be contacted by the Local Education Authority Welfare Officer if my child/children's absence is considered excessive.

Signed: (Parent/carer): _____ Date: _____

FOR OFFICE USE

Authorised (please circle): Yes No (Please circle)

Comments:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Appendix 2

Walter Halls Primary and Early Years School



Querneby Road

Mapperley

Nottingham

NG3 5HS

Telephone: (0115) 9150045

Email: admin@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Emma Beardah

INSERT DATE

Parental Salutation

Address

Address

Address

Dear **Parental Salutation**

I am writing following the request you have submitted for **<Child's Name>** to be absent from school from the dates of **<dates requested>**, a period of **<number>** days absence.

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 state that schools can no longer grant any leave of absence during term time **unless there are exceptional circumstances** and holidays in term time do not meet the criteria to be considered exceptional. I am therefore unable to authorise this request.

I understand that you may be disappointed with this decision, however should **<child's name>** be absent during this time, we will follow the school policy and apply to the Local Authority for a penalty notice.

A penalty notice is a fine issued by Nottingham City Council. The fine will be £60 if paid within 28 days or £120 if paid within after that time. A penalty notice can be issued to each parent for each child. Should the fine not be paid, the matter may be referred to the Magistrates Court for further action to be considered.

If you wish to discuss the matter further then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jo Glover
Deputy Head Teacher / Attendance Lead

Appendix 3

Walter Halls Primary and Early Years School



Querneby Road
Mapperley
Nottingham
NG3 5HS

Telephone: (0115) 9150045

Email: admin@walterhalls.nottingham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Emma Beardah

INSERT DATE

Parental Salutation

Address
Address
Address

Dear **Parental Salutation**

I am writing following the request that was declined for **Childs name** to be absent from school from **<dates requested>**, a period of **<number> days**, absence.

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 state that schools can no longer grant any leave of absence during term time **unless there are exceptional circumstances** and holidays in term time do not meet the criteria to be considered exceptional.

As **<Child's Name>** were absent absent during this time, we will follow the school policy and apply to the Local Authority for a penalty notice.

A penalty notice is a fine issued by Nottingham City Council. The fine will be £60 if paid within 28 days or £120 if paid within after that time. A penalty notice can be issued to each parent for each child. Should the fine not be paid, the matter may be referred to the Magistrates Court for further action to be considered.

If you wish to discuss the matter further then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jo Glover
Deputy Head Teacher / Attendance Lead