

HOMEWORK FOR HOLIDAYS POLICY

Whilst recognising the parental desire to take family holidays at off-peak times or to be tied to taking holidays when instructed to do so by employers, Ballyholme Primary School has developed this policy based on the following criteria.

- A holiday is a holiday and should be a break from the usual routine. When someone goes on holiday they mentally ‘switch off’.
- Work completed at home during the term is normally a reinforcement of that covered in class. It is a follow-up to what has actually been taught in class – if this teaching has been missed then the follow-up could be misinterpreted.
- Preparing work for even a few days ahead can be difficult as it is not always easy to gauge the speed that the children will work at.
- Due to changes in the methods of teaching reading, spelling and elements of maths it is essential that children receive the correct input.

ACTION

Please try to avoid taking pupils out of school during term time – it disrupts their learning and often they take time to settle into normal routine.

If taking a holiday during normal term times please complete the attached form. This will be kept on record to enable EWO (Education & Welfare Officer) monitor periods of absence of more than a few days. This form should be completed for holiday absences in excess of 3 school days and returned to the school office. Additional copies may be requested from the school secretary.

No work prepared by the teacher will be given during the holiday. However we would encourage children to continue reading during their holiday.

Reading, spelling and number facts may, where appropriate, be completed retrospectively upon return to school.

Essential written notes may be completed upon return from holiday.

Every effort will be made by the teacher to ensure that the child ‘catches up’ on essential work, which has been missed. The pace that the curriculum moves at may mean that this could be a considerable amount.