

**Application for leave of absence in exceptional circumstances during term time**

***Leave of absences are granted for exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Headteacher/Principal. Leave of absence applications for family holidays will not be approved.***

***Please ensure you have read the statutory declaration at the end of this form before signing.***

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| **SCHOOL:** | | | | **DATE OF REQUEST:** | |  |
| **First Name** | **Surname** | | | **Date of Birth** | | **Class** |
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| **Leaving date:** |  | | | **Date due back in school:** | |  |
| **Length of absence applied for (number of school days only):** | | | | | | **days** |
|  | | | | | | |
| **Siblings in other schools:** **Please note this request information will be shared with the attendance lead in the school in which the sibling/s attend** | **First Name** | | | **Surname** | | **School** |
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| **Contact Details** | | | | | | |
| **Parents/Carers/Legal Guardians:** | | **First name:**    **Surname:** | | | **First name:**    **Surname:** | |
|  | | **Address:**        **Postcode:** | | | **Address:**        **Postcode:** | |
|  | | **Email:**    **Home phone number:**    **Mobile:**    **Alternative number while away:** | | | **Email:**    **Home phone number:**    **Mobile:**    **Alternative number while away:** | |
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| **Reason for absence including full explanation (use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)**  The exceptional circumstances are… | | | | | | |
| **Emergency Contact Details (preferably someone who is staying in Harrogate/Leeds):**    **First Name:**    **Surname:**    **Address:**    **Postcode:**    **Relationship to the child:**    **Contact Number:** | | | **If child is not leaving with parent(s)/carer(s)/legal guardian(s) who is accompanying them?**    **Who will be caring/responsible for the child?**    **Why is/are the parent(s)/carer(s)/legal guardian(s) not leaving with the child?**    **Name:**  **Relationship to child:**  **Address:** | | | |

**Statutory Declaration**

***Legal responsibility***

***As a parent/carer I understand all children aged between 5 and 16 are required by law to receive an education, and under the provisions of the Education Act 1996, it is my responsibility as a parent/carer to ensure the regular school attendance of my children and that failure to do so could result in legal proceedings being taken by the Local Education Authority.***

*I understand that requests for leave can only be granted by schools if there are* ***exceptional circumstances****, and* ***holidays are not considered exceptional****. They must also be made to the school in advance, as the* ***Department for Education*** *has told schools that they cannot authorise any absences after they have been taken.*

***Fines***

*I understand if my request is unauthorised, I am most likely to receive either a single fine of* ***£80 for both parents/carers or £80 per parent/carer*** *then an* ***additional £80 per child*** *(for example a family of four with two parents and 2 children could be fined a total of £320). Fines are handled by and issued in accordance with the Local Authority Regulation.*

*Once the penalty notice is issued, I have* ***21 days in which to pay the fine****. If I fail to pay in that time period, the fine* ***will double*** *and I then have* ***another seven days in which to pay****, taking the total time in which to make payment to 28 days.*

*In the case of repeated fines, if I received a second fine for the same child within any given three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of* ***£160****.*

*I understand that fines per parent/carer will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.*

***If I fail to make payment after 28 days,*** *then the Local Authority has the power to prosecute me in the Magistrate’s Court for the offence of failing to ensure my child attends school regularly. A guilty verdict at court* ***can lead to a fine of up to £2500, and a criminal record which can affect employment opportunities.***

***School places***

*I am aware that a* ***referral will made to the Local Authority Children Missing from Education Team (CME) if my request is unauthorised, and my child hasn’t returned to school on the agreed date****. This can result in my child* ***losing their school place****.*

*I am also aware that there is a shortage of places in the area, so if my child loses their school place it could result in having to travel to a school out of area or my child without a school, being a detriment to their education and causing implications to my own employment.*

***Parent/Carer/Legal Guardian full name: Parent/Carer/Legal Guardian signature:***

***Date:***

***Parent/Carer/Legal Guardian full name: Parent/Carer/Legal Guardian signature:***

***Date:***

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| **School Section**  **Any previous request** Yes □ No □ | **Is the requested absence during exams** Yes □ No □ | | | |
| **Reason for refusal/comments** | | | | |
| **Authorised** □ | **Approved** |  | **for school days** |  |
| **Unauthorised** □ | **Not approved** |  | **for school days** |  |
| **Headteacher’s/Principal’s signature**  **Date:** |  | | | |