

St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

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Application for leave of absence / exceptional circumstances

As parents, you have a legal responsibility to ensure your child's attendance at school. Holidays should be taken during the school holiday period. During the academic year pupils are at school for 190 days and at home for 175 days. In order for our children to fully utilise their years in education, we believe it is vital that every message they receive reinforces the importance of school. Holidays in term time interrupt continuity of teaching and learning, disrupt the educational progress of individual children and create disruption to classes.

Please fill in this form if you want to ask the Headteacher of your child's school to authorise a leave of absence during term time. You must ask well in advance. **Please be aware that the statutory DfE Working Together to Improve School Attendance 2024 and The Education (Penalty Notices) (England) Regulations 2024, state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.** Holidays in term time are not authorised during term time.

If you take your child out of school without the approval of the school, you will be liable to receive a Penalty Notice for failing to ensure your child's regular school attendance. Each parent will be liable to receive a Penalty Notice for each child who is absent.

The Penalty Notice is for £80 per child, per parent/carer, if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after 21 days but before 28 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in you being served with a summons to appear at the Magistrates Court. If the absence exceeds 20 days, your child's name will be removed from the school roll and you will have to reapply for a place upon your return.

The Headteacher will consider the reasons for the request carefully and will notify you of the decision within five days.

Name of Child:	Class:
I am applying for leave of absence for my child for the following reason/s: Please staple a copy of any appointment letter or other evidence to this form.	
From: _____ to: _____	
Number of days my child will be absent from school: _____	
This cannot be taken during the school holidays because:	



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Has your child already had leave of absence in this school year?	YES / NO
If YES, please give dates and details:	
I also have children at these schools:	
Signed: (Parent/Carer)	Date :
Name of parent applying for the leave:	

To be completed by the Headteacher		
Name of parent requesting the leave of absence:		
Child for whom leave is requested:		
Date request received in school:		
Child's attendance level during academic year 2023 / 2024:	%	
Child's attendance level during academic year 2024 / 2025:	%	
Child's attendance level since September 2025:	%	
Having considered your request carefully, my decision is that leave of absence is:		
Approved		The absence will be recorded as authorised.
Not approved		The absence will be recorded as unauthorised.
Explanatory notes:		
Signed: (Headteacher)		
Date:		

