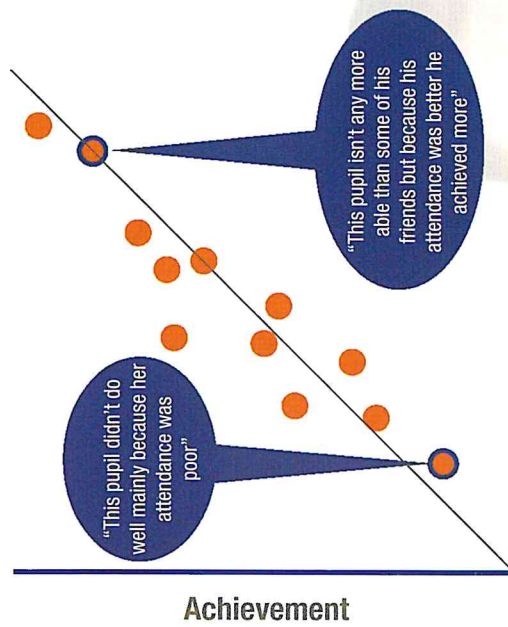


## Attendance & Achievement

A chart similar to one used by a school to illustrate the link between attendance and achievement.



Attendance Rate

Achievement

## Contacts

We hope that when you have read this leaflet you will consider that your child's education is too important to take leave during term time.

### Contact

For further information please contact:

The Attendance Support Team  
Darby House,  
Lawn Central,  
Telford TF3 4JA

Telephone: 01952 385220

## Attendance Support Team

## Leave during term time

It could cost more than you think!  
Every school day counts!



## It could cost more than you think!

### Did you know

- that the law says that parents do not have the right to take their child out of school for holidays during term time;
- parents cannot demand leave of absence for the purpose of holidays as a right, and are asked to consider seriously, the education implications for their children before making an application to the Headteacher;
- that the Headteacher does not have to authorise leave in term time other than in exceptional circumstances;
- Headteachers should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted;
- that taking unauthorised leave in term time could result in each parent receiving a Penalty Notice costing up to £120 for each child, or each parent could be taken to court;
- that good consistent attendance at school is crucial to giving your child the best chance of success.

## Do you think it's worth it?

### Have you considered?

- that any decision made by you as a parent, to take leave in term time will have an effect upon your child;
- the disruption that will be caused to other pupils and staff, when your child returns to school following an absence and needs extra help to catch up;
- the Headteacher will have to take into consideration the following points before making a decision about your leave in term time request:
  - **your child's previous attendance history**
  - **your child's age**
  - **the stage of your child's education**
  - **the time of year (SATs, exams etc)**
  - **the nature of the trip (exceptional circumstances)**

## Have you thought of the effect upon your child?

### Also we know that

- those children who have the best rates of attendance, achieve the best results and taking leave in term time, will affect their potential;
  - research suggests that children who are taken out of school, may never catch up on course work they have missed. This may affect test results and can be a particular problem for children in the last year of their schooling;
  - some children find it difficult to renew friendships with their classmates when they return to school following a period of absence.
- So, please consider the unspoken message you are giving your child by letting them think it is acceptable to miss school. In some cases of severe truancy, taking time off in term time has been a contributory factor.**