

Olveston CEVC Primary School
Elberton Road
Olveston
Bristol
BS35 4DB
Head Teacher: Miss F. Bertham



Tel: 01454 613299
Fax: 01454 616388
olvestonprimary.school@southglos.gov.uk

Lifelong learning, striving for excellence

Parents' Self-Check Holiday Questionnaire

(to be read 4 weeks prior to requesting holiday absence in term time)

The purpose of this self-checking list is so that you as a parent/carer are aware of the information that the school is obliged to consider before authorising any absence. High attendance promotes the ability of pupils to achieve their full potential. The law regards a child's rights to a full education as a serious matter. The Governing Body of Olveston Primary School have tried to balance this against pressures on families, particularly financial, and for this reason, Olveston's attendance policy does allow one holiday of up to 10 days for pupils if their attendance is otherwise good (above 94%). *(The full details of the school policy on attendance are available in the 'Attending School' leaflet distributed to each child when they start school).*

If the answer to any of the following questions is 'Yes' holiday permission will not usually be given.

1. Is your child's attendance for the last 12 months (excluding school holidays and closure) less than 96.4%? *(5 days=2.4% of 190 pupil schools days in a year. 94% is the minimum expected attendance barring serious illness or circumstances).*
2. Is the holiday longer than 10 school days? *(The school policy does not authorise any holiday absence for more than 10 consecutive days).*
3. Has holiday already been taken during the current academic year? *(The school policy only allows one period of holiday per year).*
4. Does the holiday occur during Term 5? *(no holiday will be authorised during Term 5 as academic monitoring is taking place).*
5. Is your child's attendance already acting as a disadvantage to your child's progress because there are a number of 'broken weeks' *(There is evidence which demonstrates that even pupils with a high attendance total do less well than pupils of similar ability if they have a pattern of 'broken weeks').*

Having reviewed your child's attendance and these questions, please consider whether or not you wish to write and request holiday absence. The school will only authorise absence up to 3 weeks prior to the absence; it will not do this further in advance because, of course, the attendance register can change because of many unforeseen factors (e.g. illness). Unfortunately cheap travel deals cannot be acknowledged as exceptional circumstances.