**Attendance – Make Every Day Matter at Brookhurst Primary School**

Each academic year has **190 school days**, this leaves **175 non-school days** for family time, holidays, visits and appointments.  
If a pupil is absent for just **1 day** each term that equals **6 days or 39 hours** a year of lost learning.

**Requests for holiday**

There is no automatic entitlement, in law, to time off during term time.

All requests for a leave of absence must be, by law, made in writing and in advance. As a school, we request parents use the **‘Absence Request Form’** which is available on the school website and from the school office. Absence requests are only authorised in exceptional circumstances. If you choose to remove your child from school when the request has been denied it will be recorded as unauthorised and the school may request the Local Authority issue a penalty notice.

**DID YOU KNOW…**

…that 2 weeks absent from school brings a child’s attendance down to 87% Attendance at or below 90% is classed as **persistent absence**.

…a child who is absent a day of school per week misses an equivalent of two years of their school life

**HAVE YOU EVER…**

* Arrived at a cinema when a film has already started?
* Turned up at a party late?
* Arrived to a gym class when everyone has got the routine?
* Walked into a meeting late?

Just take a minute to think about how that feels… you feel like you don’t know what’s going on, you are playing catch up, your colleagues/friends are discussing ideas and plans you were not part of arranging. This feeling is the same for your child when they arrive even 10 minutes late for school. Friends have formed groups to work in and are busy discussing ideas and being on task. They have missed the very important lesson input and they are playing ‘catch up’ academically and socially.

**Why is it so important, its only the odd day…What could happen?**

* children can fall behind in making progress
* affect their motivation and their enjoyment of learning
* lead to poor behaviour
* affect their confidence
* mean they miss out on the social life of school and extra-curricular opportunities and experiences
* affect their ability to have or keep friendships.