

Sprowston Cluster of Schools



Cecil Gowing Infant
Falcon Junior
Garrick Green Infant
Hainford and Frettenham Primary Partnership
Hall School
Lodge Lane Infant
Old Catton Junior
Sparhawk Infant and Nursery
Spixworth Infant
Sprowston Community High
Sprowston Infant
Sprowston Junior
White Woman Lane Junior
Woodland View Junior

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Term-time holidays

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 currently allow head teachers to grant leave of absence for the purpose of a family holiday during term time in 'special circumstances', of up to ten school days leave per year.

However, changes to the regulations have removed references to family holidays and make it clear that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are *exceptional circumstances*.

Exceptional circumstances may include:

- Armed forces personnel returning from a tour of duty
- Police or other service personnel whose leave has been cancelled during school holidays (for example during the Olympic Games last year)
- Family funeral

Therefore, the current law does not give any entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time. This means that from 1st September 2013, schools in the Sprowston Cluster cannot authorise any holidays.

Please be aware that these rules are set by the Government, not the schools, and if you decide to take your child out of school during term-time unauthorised, you may receive a penalty notice from the Local Authority.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you are unsure how these changes affect you.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher