



ST RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM & HOLIDAY DATES 2020/2021



AUTUMN TERM 2020	
HALF TERM 1	
Tuesday 1 st September 2020	Inset Day 1
Wednesday 2 nd September 2020	Inset Day 2
Thursday 3 rd September 2020	School Opens – See September Letter
Monday 7 th September 2020	School Opens – All Pupils
Thursday 22 nd October 2020	School Closes for Half Term
Friday 23 rd October 2020	Inset Day 3
HALF TERM 2	
Monday 2 nd November 2020	School Opens
Friday 18 th December 2020	School Closes for Christmas Holidays

SPRING TERM 2021	
HALF TERM 1	
Monday 4 th January 2021	School Opens
Friday 12 th February 2021	School Closes for Half Term
HALF TERM 2	
Monday 22 nd February 2021	Inset Day 4
Tuesday 23 rd February 2021	School Opens
Thursday 1 st April 2021	School Closes for Easter Holidays

SUMMER TERM 2021	
HALF TERM 1	
Wednesday 14 th April 2021	School Opens
Monday 3 rd May 2021	Bank Holiday Monday
Friday 21 st May 2021	School Closes for Half Term
HALF TERM 2	
Monday 7 th June 2021	School Opens
Tuesday 20 th July 2021	School Closes for Summer Holidays

"May God's love shine in our lives as we care and share and learn together."



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ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY



PLEASE NOTE

- We have tried to keep as close to the All Saints and Tameside calendars as possible.
- September and May are key assessment times for all children; absences at these times will be particularly disruptive.
- Please make every effort to arrange your family holidays during the school holidays, term time holidays lead to unauthorised absences and potential fines from the LA.
- If your child is not in school, please telephone before 9.30am to notify school of the absence and the reason for the absence.
- As part of our attendance policy we will contact parents/guardians of any child not in school where no contact has been made.
- Absences will be classed as unauthorised unless notified otherwise.

ATTENDANCE

Good attendance is essential for all children so that they make their expected progress. The government expects the level of school attendance for all primary aged pupils to be no lower than 95%. For your information the following is a useful guide:

100% =	Excellent attendance		
95% =	Good attendance		
90% =	4 weeks over the year	=	½ day absence every week
85% =	6 weeks over the year		
80% =	8 weeks over the year	=	1 day absence every week
75% =	10 weeks over the year		
70% =	12 weeks over the year	=	1½ days absence every week

We are aware that children may have specific illnesses that prevent them from attending school which can bring attendance levels down. Holidays and leave of absence authorised or not also have a detrimental effect on your child's education.

PUNCTUALITY

Arriving late for school has a detrimental influence as children can miss initial learning opportunities. Lateness can lead to a poor habit that can carry on in High School where they will miss a key social time at the start of day. To put this into context 10 minutes late every day is the equivalent of missing 6 full days in a year, while 30 minutes late every day is the equivalent of missing 4 full weeks in a year. In saying this we do realise that there are occasions where events occur that are out of parents control (weather/ late buses etc.) and we ask that you do leave enough time to make the journey safely.

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ABSENCES IN TERM TIME

Since 2012 being absent from school in term time for any reason other than illness is not allowed by law and the local authority work with schools to fine parents who do so. Therefore, the Governing Board are unable to give permission for term time absences, this includes holidays, family occasions etc. In exceptional circumstances, requests for absence will be further considered and may be authorised. Below is the legal notice I give each year to enable us to fine if needed. Please take note of the advice given. Attendance at school has direct impact on children's life chances and we are duty bound to make decisions in the best interests of children.

Any requests for leave of absence need to be made using the form available from the school office and any decision is made by the Governing Board. The Governing Board will make a further review of procedures over this term however as a school we need to report any absences which fit the below criteria to the LA.

THIS IS THE OFFICIAL NOTICE THAT WE ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO SEND OUT BY THE LA

Penalty Notices for Non- school attendance – Information

Section 444(A) of the Education Act 1996 empowers the local authority to issue Penalty Notices in cases of unauthorised absence from school. This means that when a pupil has unauthorised absence of 10 sessions (5 days) or more, in any term (where no acceptable reason has been given for the absence) or if their child persistently arrives late for school after the close of registration, their parents or carers may receive a Penalty Notice of £120, which is reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days. The penalty notice will need to be paid in full before 28 days of the notice being served. Failure to pay a penalty notice may result in prosecution.

In law, an offence is committed if a parent or carer fails to secure a child's regular attendance at school. Tameside Education Welfare Service, in conjunction with schools and Greater Manchester Police, will use these powers as an early deterrent to prevent patterns of unauthorised absence developing. Parents may also receive a Penalty Notice without a warning letter for the offence of failing to secure regular school attendance under the following circumstances:

- Their child is stopped on a truancy sweep more than once
- They go on holiday in term time without school's permission
- The child fails to return to school following a fixed term exclusion

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 also makes it an offence if a parent fails to ensure that their child is not in a public place during the first 5 days of a fixed term or permanent exclusion. Penalty Notices may be issued for such an offence. The Local Authority and schools are committed to providing the best possible future for your child. If you have concerns about your child's attendance at school or if you are experiencing any difficulties, please contact your school and ask for help.

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