

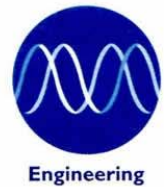


Eckington School

a specialist engineering college

Respect Progress **Succeed**

Headteacher: P Cummings, MA



Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your recent application for a holiday during term time.

As part of our continuing drive to promote standards at Eckington School we are keen to raise your awareness of the importance of good attendance and its direct link to academic success. Government (DCSF) points out that a student who attends school for only 90% of the time will in fact miss half a year of schooling between Y7 and Y11. Educational research informs us that just 17 days absence per annum is directly linked to a whole grade drop at GCSE level.

In the light of such significant statistics, from September 2009 **Eckington School will no longer authorise any holiday leave for students during school time.** At present Derbyshire County Council permits schools to authorise up to 10 days holiday leave at their discretion; however this is not a statutory obligation and Eckington School does not believe that ultimately it is in the best interests of its students to take holidays in term time. It is our firm belief that our students' progress is adversely affected by such absence.

Eckington School is also looking at a range of other ways to improve all students' individual attendance including linking good attendance to our Celebration of Achievement policy. We trust in and value your support in such an important area.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further concerns or queries.

Yours sincerely

J HARRISON

Deputy Headteacher



Deputy Headteachers: A Burgess, J Harrison

Eckington School Dronfield Road Eckington Sheffield S21 4GN
Tel 01246 432849 Fax 01246 434401 e-mail admin@eckington.derbyshire.sch.uk
www.eckington.net