



## GUIDELINES FOR LIMITING THE IMPACT OF EXTENDED STUDENT ABSENCE

### RATIONALE

Parents are expected to take family vacations during school holidays. Research shows in-term absences significantly impact on student achievement. Under the **Education Act 1999** parents are required to have children attend school each day of term, unless authorised leave has been approved on compassionate grounds.

### PURPOSE

These guidelines assist parents to;

- Consider the impact family holidays during term can have on student progress
- Realise they have a legal responsibility to get their child to school every day, and
- Understand that the continuation of their child's learning is very important

Occasionally families do need to attend significant events during the school term. This guide will assist parents to plan their arrangements to minimise the impact this has on student learning.

### GUIDELINES

This guide relates to an absence that occurs when students are taken out of school for a family event or vacation. Absences of this kind are marked as "unauthorised" and will remain on the child's school attendance record.

#### ***Please consider the following to reduce the impact of an extended absence:***

- Negotiate the absence in advance with the Principal or delegate
- Ensure the absence is for a reasonable duration
- Articulate the work they propose their child will complete whilst away
- Outline the learning benefit the vacation might offer their child, and how they propose to capitalise on this

### CONCLUSION

The school will work with parents to minimise the potential disruption to learning programs that extended absences can cause.