



# Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

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8<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Attendance/Holiday Update

Given a recent increase in the number of holiday requests during term time and the fact that schools are no longer able to authorise holidays, I thought it would be useful to share with you again key dates for the rest of the academic year to allow you to book holidays in holiday periods. They are as follows:

Break up for the Christmas Term Break	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2019
Christmas Term Break	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2020
School opens to the children – Term 3 begins	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2020
The whole school will carry out mid-year assessments – please ensure your child is not absent during this period otherwise your child may not receive mid-term progress results.	The first two weeks of February 2020
Break up for February Term Break	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2020
February Term Break	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2020
School opens to the children – Term 4 begins	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2020
Break up for the Easter Term Break	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2020
Easter Term Break	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
School opens to the children – Term 5 begins	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
All children in Year 2 will carry out End of Key Stage One Assessments (SATS) during the month of May – please ensure your child is not absent during this month otherwise their assessment results may be affected.	May 2020
School closed for May Day Bank Holiday	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 <i>Please note that this is a national change to the original date of Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020 due to celebrating 100 years of VE Day.</i>
All children in Year 6 will carry out End of Key Stage Two Assessments (SATS) during this week – please ensure your child is not absent during the month of May, otherwise vital revision will be missed and their end of primary school assessment may be affected.	May 2020 Test Week Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
Break up for May Term Break	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020
May Term Break	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May
School opens to the children – Term 6 begins	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2020
All children in Year 1, 3, 4, 5 will carry out end of year assessments – please ensure your child is not absent during the month of June, otherwise vital revision will be missed and your child may not receive end of year progress results.	June 2020
Break up for the Summer Term Break	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2020

*We are a Caring Christian Community built on  
Compassion, Trust, Friendship and Hope*

Please note that government guidelines do not authorise any holidays during term time unless in **exceptional** circumstances **and** your child's attendance is already **exemplary**.

The following information is taken from Lincolnshire attendance guidance:

### Why is school attendance important for my child?

- ✓ Most parents want their children to be happy and achieve
- ✓ It is more important than ever for children to have a good education, to have choices and opportunities in adult life (a school year is only 190 days in total).
- ✓ Children only get one chance at school and your child's chances of a successful future may be affected if they are not attending school regularly
- ✓ Chances (probability) of achieving good grades based on your child's school attendance level:

Attendance/ No. of days of education	No. of days absence	Chance of achieving expected standard in SATs/GCSEs
190 to 186 days = 100%-98%	Up to 4 days	Expected attendance: very good chance
182 to 176 days = 96%-93%	Between 8 and 14 days	Risk of under achievement
170 days = 90%	20 days	Less than 50%*
161 days = 85%	29 days	Less than 20%

*\*A 90% attendance means your child is absent from school for the equivalent of half a day per week, missing up to 3 hours of lessons a week!*

### It's not cool to be late for school!

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that the school day begins at 8.45am for KS2 and 8.50am for FSI/KSI and that children can enter the classroom 10 minutes prior to these times (8.35am KS2/8.40am FS2/KSI). Thank you to the majority of children who arrive to school on time and continue to show exceptional attendance. However, we are concerned that there are a number of families who are frequently late. If the children arrive after 9am, they are marked as unauthorised and persistent lateness may result in attendance support meetings with yourself and the school, in order to find ways to address this. It is a legal requirement that children are present for the start of the school day.

Being late for school does not set a good example to the children. We wouldn't expect a teacher to arrive late for the class or employees to be constantly late for work, so it is essential that we teach the children at an early age the importance of punctuality.

### What difference does it make if my child arrives late to school?


Lateness = lost learning – minutes amount to days!

During registration, children are given early morning work each day to practise skills taught. Children can be very unsettled for the rest of the morning if they have had to begin class work or join assembly part way through.

Minutes lost each day	Days per school year
5 mins	3 days
10 mins	6.5 days
15 mins	10 days
20 mins	13 days
30 mins	19 days

Thank you for your co-operation and continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Diane Mulley  
Head Teacher