

**ATTENDANCE:  
DID YOU  
KNOW?...**

**IF YOUR CHILD'S  
ATTENDANCE IS 90% IN  
ONE SCHOOL YEAR THAT  
EQUATES TO AROUND  
FOUR WEEKS OF LESSONS  
MISSED. IF YOUR CHILD'S  
ATTENDANCE IS 90%  
OVER FIVE YEARS THAT  
EQUATES TO HALF A  
SCHOOL YEAR MISSED.**

If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format such as braille or large print, this can be arranged by contacting Customer Services.

**Tel: 0300 123 0900**

Text only versions of this publication are available in Polish, Chinese and Urdu.

**It is also available in large print or on audio, on request.**

**0300 123 0900**

Dostępna jest wersja tej publikacji w języku polskim, zawierająca wyłącznie tekst.

Aby uzyskać więcej informacji, proszę skontaktować się z:

**0300 123 0900**

本出版物還有純文字中文版。  
有關更多資訊，請聯絡：

**0300 123 0900**

اس اشاعت کے نسخہ کا صرف اردو زبان میں دستیاب ہے۔  
مزید جانکاری کے لیے براہ کرم ذیل پر رابطہ قائم کریں:

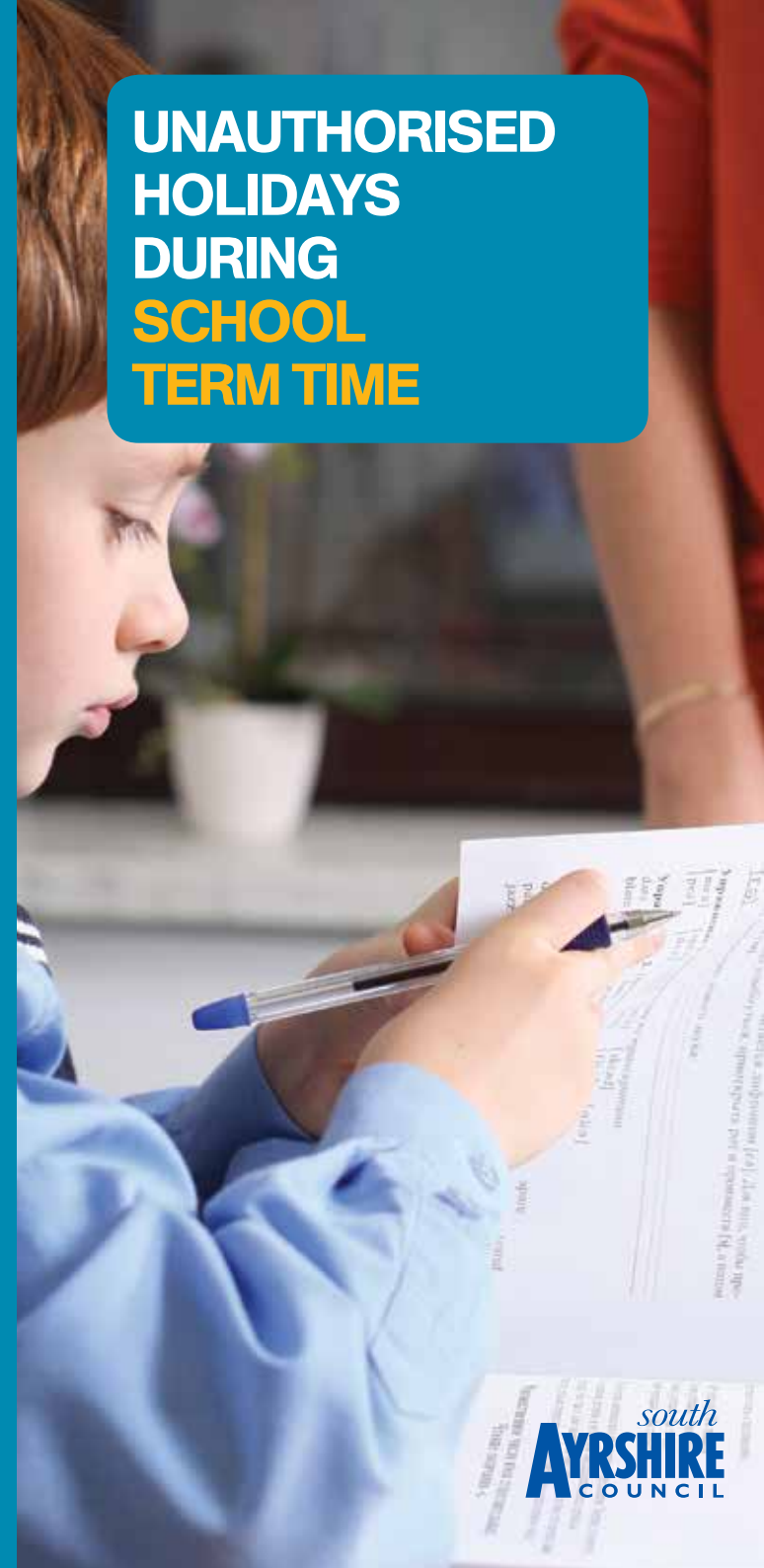
**0300 123 0900**

If you would like to speak to someone about the information in this leaflet you should contact your school for further clarification.

**South Ayrshire Council –  
Educational Services**

*south*  
**AYRSHIRE**  
COUNCIL

**UNAUTHORISED  
HOLIDAYS  
DURING  
SCHOOL  
TERM TIME**



*south*  
**AYRSHIRE**  
COUNCIL

# UNAUTHORISED HOLIDAYS DURING SCHOOL TERM TIME

Over the last few years, most of our schools have noticed an increase in the number of pupils absent from schools because of family holidays. South Ayrshire Council is aware that this happens for a number of reasons:

- The availability of cheap holidays or desired accommodation;
- Holidays which overlap the beginning or end of term;
- Parents may be unable to take time off during school holidays.



## EFFECTS OF MISSING SCHOOL:

We would strongly encourage you not to take your child/children out of school during term time. Our headteachers have noticed that missing school can have a number of adverse effects not only on the pupils who have been absent but sometimes on the class or whole school, including:

- drop in attainment of pupils on holiday on a regular basis;
- disruption to the class when pupils return;
- disruption to assessment and testing schedules;
- difficulty for pupils settling back into school;
- behavioural problems if pupils fall behind in school work;
- an effect on the general ethos of the school.

**OUR HEADTEACHERS HAVE NOTICED THAT MISSING SCHOOL CAN HAVE A NUMBER OF ADVERSE EFFECTS NOT ONLY ON THE PUPILS WHO HAVE BEEN ABSENT BUT SOMETIMES ON THE CLASS OR WHOLE SCHOOL.**

Family holidays taken during term time will be recorded as unauthorised. Only in exceptional and very limited circumstances will the school authorise a family holiday during term time. Such circumstances may include:

- A family holiday judged to be important to the well-being and cohesion of the family following serious or terminal illness, bereavement or other traumatic events;
- Where a parent's employment is of a nature where school holiday leave cannot be accommodated (eg. armed services).

Parents must speak to the school prior to making arrangements or taking any absence. No school work will be provided for the period of absence although some schools may consider giving you information about what will be covered during the absence.

