

## Visits in Term Time- Announcement

**From September 2013 there have been revisions to the law: The Education (pupil registration) (England)(Amendment) Regulations 2013 No 756**

**This states that that “leave of absence during term time shall not be granted unless there are ‘exceptional circumstances’”**

**Governing Body of St Hilda’s has been advised by the Local Authority that 'exceptional circumstances' have been defined as being trauma or bereavement of a close family member (which requires immediate departure from the UK) , unique situations due to parents' work/ employment commitments which have been verified by the employer or an opportunity for a holiday for a terminally ill family member**

**Planned future journeys to visit a sick relative, to visit family or to take holiday or Hajj no longer fall into this definition and can no longer be authorised by the school.**

Extended visits without permission, and failure to return from an extended visit within the agreed time of a maximum of 10 school days will result in absences being recorded as unauthorised. This will involve the attendance officer and may result in a fixed penalty fine of £120 per parent, per child, being imposed and the family being removed from the school roll.

Sick notes from Bangladesh **cannot** be accepted as mitigating circumstances, neither will missed or cancelled flights.

Parents requesting leave of absence in term time should continue to contact the school in the first instance where the individual circumstances will be reviewed by the Head teacher. The Head teacher will refer cases to members of the Governing Body for a final decision.