





OFFICIAL

## Broome North Primary School IN-TERM LEAVE – VACATION

Leave of absence will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

*Respect–Responsibility–Resilience*

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Thank you for notifying the school that you plan to take your child /children out of class for an in-term family vacation.

Research recently undertaken by the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, Student Attendance and Educational Outcomes: Everyday Counts, has found a clear link between student absence and achievement in school. Each day a child is absent from school has a direct impact on their educational outcomes.

Establishing and maintaining a positive attendance career for all students ensures success in their future study and career pathways. When a student misses one school day per fortnight they will, by Year 9, have missed one entire year of school.

I will review the nature of the request to determine whether there are reasonable grounds to approve the request. If a request is deemed to be unacceptable e.g., taking the family to Bali during the school term to take advantage of cheap airfares and accommodation, then the absence will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. However, if the request is deemed to be reasonable e.g., attending a family wedding interstate or overseas, then the absence will be recorded as an authorised vacation.

Whilst I understand that we live in an isolated location and in the past, it has been very difficult to travel, the Department's position is that there are 12 weeks of the year that school is not in session that families can utilise for travel purposes. I appreciate your support on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Molyneux  
Principal  
Broome North Primary School