## **Every school day matters**

Did you know you could be **fined** for taking a leave of absence or holiday in term time?



If you fail to secure your child's regular attendance at school, you may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice for:

- Unauthorised absence, including holidays
- Persistent late arrivals

Head teacher's permission is required before a leave of absence.

This can only be granted in 'exceptional circumstances'.

## The fines are:

- £60 per parent per child, if paid within 21 days
- Increasing to £120 per parent, per child if paid after 21 days but within 28 days

If the Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid, you could be prosecuted under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 for the attendance offence. If found guilty, you could face:

- A fine of up to £2,500 and/or
- Three months imprisonment plus legal costs
- If convicted, you could get a criminal record

If you have any concerns or queries, please contact the Attendance Team: attendanceteam@brighton-hove.gov.uk 01273 291378

