



Tuesday 25th May 2021

Dear Parent

RE Pupils failing to return to school due to being abroad

You will be aware that school attendance became mandatory from 8th March 2021 when the Government reopened all schools for all pupils.

Stockport Council are aware that some families have been unable to return to school due to not being able to secure flights back to the UK from visiting families abroad. It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise, as far as possible, the longer-term impact on children's education, wellbeing and wider development. Children have missed an unprecedented amount of time from school this year due to Coronavirus pandemic, which is why it is more important than ever to ensure your child returns to school as soon as possible.

We are aware that Government restrictions have played a significant role in some families not being able to get flights home and some families are delaying their return to the UK as they do not wish to quarantine in hotels on their return.

Please be aware that your child's school place could be at risk if the return to the UK is delayed longer than is necessary. Schools may also consider removing your child from the school roll if no estimated return date is communicated to them, or if you fail to maintain contact with the school. It is vital, even if you are not in the country or are self-isolating, that you keep the school updated of an expected return date and respond quickly to requests for information and evidence that school make to avoid losing your child's school place.

In order to reduce the spread of Covid-19 in the UK, there are specific actions currently required for anyone returning to the UK from a foreign country. This includes having a Covid-19 test before you travel, quarantining for 10-days on arrival and also booking PCR tests before you enter the UK to take during your quarantine period. People returning to the UK from a 'Red List' country must quarantine in a managed hotel. Further information on these requirements, as well as country-specific restrictions, can be found here: [Red, amber and green list rules for entering England](#)

I would remind you that parents and carers of pupils registered at a school have legal responsibility to ensure that their child attends school regularly and punctually. If parents do not remain in contact with school and/or it is considered that some or all of the absences were avoidable, Stockport Council may consider issuing a Penalty Notice (Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996).

Support and guidance on attendance is always available from school and if you have any specific queries in relation to this letter, please contact your child's school.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T Bowman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tim Bowman

Director of Education (Tameside and Stockport)

