**1.6.2 Holidays and School Trips**

**Regulations and standards**

**England:**

* Regulation 7: [**The Children’s Views, Wishes and Feelings Standard**](http://qualitystandards.proceduresonline.com/homes/p_quality_standards.html#ch_views)
* Regulation 9: [**The Enjoyment and Achievement Standard**](http://qualitystandards.proceduresonline.com/homes/p_quality_standards.html#enjoyment)

**Wales:**

* Regulation 15: Personal plan
* Regulation 19: Information about the service
* Regulation 20: Service agreement

**Outcome statement**

Children are able to pursue their particular interests, develop confidence in their skills and are supported and encouraged by staff to engage in leisure activities.

**Guidance**

[**Department for Education Advice on Health and Safety for Schools, including School Trips**](http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/advice/f00191759/departmental-advice-on-health-and-safety-for-schools)

Also see: [**Activities and Transporting Children Procedure**](http://www.proceduresonline.com/brynmelyn/chapters/p_activ_trans_chi.htm)

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3. [**Interruption to Normal Contact Arrangements**](http://www.proceduresonline.com/brynmelyn/chapters/p_holi_scho_trip.htm#interrupt)

**1. Holidays or School Trips in the UK**

Where there is a proposal for a child to go on holiday or a school trip in the UK, the relevant social worker should give approval, unless it has previously been agreed this is not necessary (which may apply for holidays or trips up to four days as set out in [**Overnight Stays and Contact with Relatives and Friends and Visitors Procedure**](http://www.proceduresonline.com/brynmelyn/chapters/p_ovnght_stay.htm)) that the home can make the arrangements without seeking approval.

If the home is permitted to arrange holidays and trips without seeking approval, the social worker should still be informed, preferably in advance or as soon as possible afterwards.

Children must not be taken on holiday during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances that would be approved by the social worker’s manager for the child and the Head of School.

**2. Holidays or School Trips outside the UK**

Where there is a proposal for child to go on holiday or school trip abroad, the child's social worker must always give approval, having consulted the child's parents.

Where the parents’ consent, their consent must be obtained in writing. Where parental consent is not given, the social worker may need to seek legal advice as to whether the holiday can go ahead.

If the child requires a passport, the social worker should be consulted on the procedures within the local authority for obtaining passport

Where the holiday or school trip will interrupt contact arrangements between the child and parents or siblings, consideration should also be given to making alternative suitable arrangements.

**3.****Interruption to Normal Contact Arrangements**

Where the holiday or school trip will interrupt normal contact arrangements between the child and his/her family and significant others, alternative suitable arrangements should be given consideration. This should be in consultation with the social worker and relevant others and consistent with the child’s Care Plan.

See[**Contact with Parents and Siblings Procedure**](http://www.proceduresonline.com/brynmelyn/chapters/p_cntct_prnt_sib.htm).

**End**