



STUDENTS HAVING TIME AWAY FROM BRIGIDINE

There are two ways for a student to be away from school at Brigidine; one is to be on Leave and the other is for the Principal to give an Exemption from attending school.

All parents are responsible for enrolling their children of compulsory school age in a government or a registered non government school or by registering them with BOSTES for home schooling. The guidelines and forms that follow are the attempt of the New South Wales Government, working through the Sydney Catholic Education Office, to ensure that all children are attending school each day and that their education is a priority for their parents

LEAVE

These students are on Leave:

- Students who are travelling for up to ten days during school time
- Students who have had a misadventure or unforeseen event
- Students who are participating in special events not related to school
- Students who are in a context of domestic necessity such as the serious illness of an immediate family member
- Students who are attending a funeral
- Students who have a religious festival or ceremony
- Students who are sick. Medical certificates are required when students have lengthy absences because of illness and/or hospitalisation.

In all these cases parents must provide the Principal with the reasons for the absence. When the absence from school is foreseen, parents must use the **Brigidine Leave Form** to communicate with the



Principal. When the absence is unforeseen, the parents need to write an explanatory letter to the Principal.

EXEMPTIONS

The Catholic Education Office has delegated to Principals the authority to exempt a student from attending school. These exemptions are given with the best interests of the education of the student in mind. The Principal will give the Exemption with conditions that will be named on the Certificate of Exemption.

- 1. Travel for more than ten school days.** Parents use **Form A.1** to apply for a Certificate of Exemption
- 2. Exceptional circumstances, employment in the entertainment industry and participation in an elite arts/sporting event.** Parents should use **Form A.2** to apply for a Certificate of Exemption

There are other Exemption forms which are required in rare circumstances and would be given to parents to use after discussion with the Brigidine Principal.

CONDITIONS OF EXEMPTIONS

Part 2, 4(b) of the NSW Education Act (1990) states that *education of a child is primarily the responsibility of the child's parents*. It should not therefore be an expectation of parents/caregivers that the school provide work for the student during the time of extended leave. (11.9 ***Procedures for student Attendance in NSW Catholic Systemic School***)

Examples of Conditions attached to Exemptions (may include but not limited to): completion of tasks prior to leaving; loss of marks due to missed assessment; alternative assessment.