The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulation and Absence from School for Taking Part in Performances

Following the change to the above Regulation, there have been varying degrees of difficulty with schools regarding absence to take part in a performance.  Therefore, we have received a statement from the Department of Education, School Attendance & Underperforming Pupils Team, as follows:-

*The amendments made to regulation 7 of the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 on leave of absence do not affect the section that allows the parent of a child performer to seek leave of absence from school for their child to take part in a performance.  The amendments affect section 3 and 4 of regulation 7, which relate to leave of absence for the purpose of a family holiday.*

***Section 2 of Regulation 7 (which has not been amended)*** *still enables a head teacher to grant leave of absence for a pupil to undertake employment during school hours for the purpose of taking part in a performance within the meaning of section 37 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1963.*

*Legislation sets out that a local authority licence must be obtained before a child can take part in a performance. Where the licence specifies the dates that a child is to be away from school to perform, then the head teacher should authorise those days. However, where the terms of the licence do not specify dates it is at the discretion of the head teacher to authorise leave of absence.*

**Sandra Rothwell**

**Chair, NNCEE**

**NOTE; See Page 15 at the link below**

<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/s/advice%20on%20school%20attendance%20nov%202013.pdf>