English Path
891 Greenford Rd,
Greenford, London,
United Kingdom
UB6 0HE
+44 (0) 207 539 3548
info@englishpath.com
www.englishpath.com

To create the world's most accessible and innovative language school that changes lives through education.

English Path Global Holiday Policy

Version History

Version	Author	Reviewed by	Pages	Approved by	Date published
5	Marjan Karami	Juliette Synnott - Lee	10	Sian Matos Director of Operations	01/10/2026
4	Juliette Synnott - Lee	Mike Summerfield	11	Head of Academics Head of Admissions	03/06/2025
3	Dorian Grey	Kathleen Law	4	Head of Academics Head of Admissions	31/10/2024
2	Dorian Grey	Richard Williams	4	Head of Academics Head of Admissions	31/10/2024
1	Dorian Grey	Kathleen Law	4	Head of Academics Head of Admissions	15/7/2024

Introduction

This policy outlines the holiday entitlements for students at all English Path locations. It provides guidance on requesting holidays, visa considerations, and local public holiday closures. The policy ensures consistency across centres while supporting student well-being, academic progress, and compliance with local regulations.

©2026 English Path

English Path
891 Greenford Rd,
Greenford, London,
United Kingdom
UB6 0HE
+44 (0) 207 539 3548
info@englishpath.com
www.englishpath.com

To create the world's most accessible and innovative language school that changes lives through education.

Contents

1. Purpose ... 3
2. Scope ... 3
3. Definitions ... 3
4. Responsibilities ... 4
5. Policy ... 4
Policy statement ... 4
Holiday allowance (General) ... 4
Holiday allowance by location ... 5
EP UK schools / Toronto/ Paris / Berlin / Riyadh ... 5
EP Dubai ... 6
EP Malta ... 7
EP Dublin ... 7
EP Brisbane ... 8
Requesting Holidays ... 8
Communication ... 8
6. References and related policies ... 9
Related policies ... 9
7. Policy Review ... 9
8. Appendices ... 9
Appendix A – Holiday Request Workflow ... 10

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the holiday allowance for students at all EP locations, ensuring students understand their entitlements based on the duration of their courses while considering visa restrictions and academic requirements.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all students enrolled in courses at any EP location, with specific guidelines for students studying at each location.

3. Definitions

Authorised Absence: A day missed with prior approval from school staff, typically for valid reasons such as visa appointments, medical emergencies, or personal matters that have been formally approved. Relevant documentation must be submitted (e.g. Visa appointment letter, medical note).

Bank Holiday: A national or regional public holiday during which schools and administrative offices are closed. Bank holidays vary by country and are recognised as non-instructional days.

EAP Courses: English for Academic Purposes courses designed to prepare students for academic study. These are intensive programmes with fixed schedules and do not permit holidays once commenced.

Full Week: Defined as five consecutive weekdays, Monday through Friday. All student holiday requests must be taken in full weeks.

Holiday Allowance: The number of weeks a student is permitted to take as a break from studies during their course, subject to course duration and local school regulations.

Overstay: When a student remains in a country beyond the permitted duration of their visa. Overstays may result in legal penalties or visa issues.

TCN (Third Country National): A student who is a national of a country that is not a member of the European Union (EU) or European Economic Area (EEA).

4. Responsibilities

- **Administration:** Responsible for managing holiday requests, ensuring compliance with visa regulations, and communicating policies to students and staff.
- **Student services:** Responsible for informing students about their holiday entitlements.
- **Students:** Expected to understand their holiday entitlements, the impact of visa restrictions, and plan their holidays accordingly. Must submit requests within the specified time frame.

5. Policy

Policy statement

EP is committed to providing students with appropriate holiday allowances to support their well-being and academic success. Holiday allowances are determined based on the duration of the student's course, with specific considerations for visa regulations.

Holiday allowance (General)

- Holiday request to administration must be taken in full weeks (Monday to Friday).
- Single days off must be requested to school team and will be registered as absence unless the absence is authorised e.g. visa office visit.
- Christmas break (or Eid break for relevant countries) is included within holiday allowance.
- No more than two weeks holiday can be taken at once.
- Requests outside of normal holiday allowance must be approved by Centre Manager / Director of Studies.
- In exceptional cases, students taking more than 4 weeks of vacation may need to retake the placement test and risk being placed at a lower level.
- Students in the Professional Certificate or EAP courses cannot take a vacation once the course has commenced.
- Additional medical insurance must be paid if the original insurance expires on the original end date.
- Your course will be automatically extended by the number of holiday weeks approved.

English Path
891 Greenford Rd,
Greenford, London,
United Kingdom
UB6 0HE
+44 (0) 207 539 3548
info@englishpath.com
www.englishpath.com

To create the world's most accessible and innovative language school that changes lives through education.

Holiday allowance by location

EP UK schools / Toronto/ Paris / Berlin / Riyadh	
Regardless of visa type if visa is valid after adding holiday	1 week of holiday for every 4 weeks booked as long as this does not create an overstay on the visa (if relevant).
Special note for UK schools	For UK sponsored students, all holidays will need to be approved by their counsellor before EP approves it.
Bank holiday closures in the UK 2026	31 August 25 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4th January 2027)
Bank holiday closures in the UK 2027	01 January 26 March 29 March 03 May 31 May 30 August 25 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4th January 2028)
Bank holiday closures in Toronto 2026	12 October 25 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4th January 2027)
Bank holiday closures in Toronto 2027	01 January 15 February 26 March 24 May 1 July 02 August 06 September 30 September 11 October 25 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4rd January 2028)
Bank holiday closures in Paris 2026	11 November 25 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4th January 2027)
Bank holiday closures in Paris 2027	01 January 29 March 01 May 06 May 17 May 14 July 01 November 11 November 25 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4th January 2028)
Bank holiday closures in Berlin 2026	21 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4th January 2027)

Bank holiday closures in Berlin 2027	01 January 08 March 26 March 29 March 06 May 17 May 22 and 24 December 25 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4th January 2028)
Bank holiday closures in Riyadh 2027	22 February 10-12 March* 17 and 18 May* 23 September *** NB.** Eid dates are tentative and may vary depending on moon sightings.

EP Dubai	
Tourist Visa & Visa on Arrival:	1 week of holiday for every 4 weeks booked as long as this does not create an overstay on the visa.
6 Month Student Visa	**Study time of 14 – 20 weeks:** 2 weeks holiday permitted
1 Year Student Visa	**English Course:** 1-4 weeks allowed. These should be taken separately, not all at once. **Between English course + Level 2:** (Student can take holiday in between two courses but their whole stay in Dubai should not exceed 1 year as student visa is valid for 1 year) **Level 2 Programme –** no extra holidays.
Bank holiday closures in Dubai 2026 **Bank holiday closures in Dubai 2027** **Additional considerations**	02- 03 December 01 January 08- 11 March* 17- 18 May* 7 June* 16 August* 02- 03 December * NB. Islamic New Year, Eid Al Fitr (Ramadan), Eid Al-Adha, Prophet Muhammad's Birthday, dates are determined by the Islamic lunar calendar and are likely to shift each year. We

	recommend double checking the exact dates closer to those times to ensure accurate planning for your course

EP Malta	
Regardless of visa type if visa is valid after adding holiday	**Course length:** Less than 8 weeks: no holiday 8 weeks: 1 week of holiday 12 weeks: 2 weeks of holidays 24 weeks: 4 weeks of holidays 48 weeks: 6 weeks of holidays
Bank holiday closures in Malta 2026 **Bank holiday closures in Malta 2027**	08 December 21-25 December 01 January 10 February 19 March 26 March 31 March 07 June 29 June 08 September 21 September 08 December 13 December 20-26 December (Reopen 27th December)
Additional Considerations:	Holiday policy applies to both EU and non-EU (Third Country National) students.

EP Dublin	
Regardless of visa type if visa is valid after adding holiday	Holidays can only be taken after completion of 8 weeks of study. Holidays cannot exceed 1/3 of the time already studied.
Bank holiday closures in Dublin 2026 **Bank holiday closures in Dublin 2027**	26 October 25 December – 3 January (Reopen on the 4th of January 2027) 01 January 01 February 17 March 29 March 03 May 07 June 02 August 25 October 25 December – 3 January (Reopen on the 4th of January 2028)

EP Brisbane	
Tourist visa & Working Holiday Visa	1 week of holiday for every 4 weeks booked as long as this does not create an overstay on the visa.
Student Visa	If holidays **are not** pre-booked, students can take **only 4 weeks off at the end** of their course. If holidays **are** pre-booked, students can **take 4 weeks off for every 12 weeks of study**. EP Student Services will confirm pre-booked holidays upon arrival.
Bank holiday closures in Brisbane 2026 **Bank holiday closures in Brisbane 2027**	05 October 25 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4th of January 2027) 01 January 26 January 26 and 29 March 26 April 03 May 11 August 04 October 25 December – 03 January (Reopen on the 4th of January 2028)

Requesting Holidays

- **Advance Notice:** Students must submit a holiday request form at least two weeks in advance of the desired holiday period. Please request the form from Student Services.
- **Australian Student Visa Holders:** Students should request holidays at the time of enrolment.
- **Approval:** All holiday requests are subject to approval by the administration, based on course requirements and visa restrictions.
- **Documentation:** Students must provide appropriate documentation if holidays are required for personal or emergency reasons.

Communication

The holiday allowance policy will be:

- Published on the English Path website.
- Included in the student handbook.
- Communicated via email to all students and staff

6. References and related policies

Related policies

- Attendance Policy

English Path policies are available here.

7. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or as necessary to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with institutional goals and student needs.

8. Appendices

Appendix A – Holiday Request Workflow

Appendix A – Holiday Request Workflow

