

Vail Farm Elementary School
Arlington Central Schools

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE

Please print clearly

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____ Date: _____
First Name Last Name

My child was absent from school on: _____
(Date(s) of Absence)

Reason for Absence:

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Phone where parent can be reached during school hours

NEW YORK STATE ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

When a student is absent, the school must obtain an affidavit (commonly called an “excuse”) from the parent or guardian and signed by him stating: (1) the student’s full name, (2) days and dates absent from school, and (3) the reason for absence. This excuse is a legal document which must be kept on file for three years and can be admitted in court as documentary evidence. Failure to present a note following an absence will result in the absence being recorded as truancy.

Legal absences are as follows:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Personal illness | 4. Impassable roads |
| 2. Critical illness or death in the immediate family | 5. Recognized religious holidays |
| 3. Extremely bad weather | 6. Required attendance at court |
| | 7. Quarantine |

Illegal absences fall into two categories: Unlawful detention and truancy.

Truancy: A student sent to school by his parents and expected to be in school is considered truant if he absents himself for some unlawful reason.

Unlawful Detention: Unlawful detention occurs when a pupil is absent from school with the knowledge and consent, stated or implied, of his parent for other than legal reasons, such as “visiting”, “away”, “vacation”, “shopping”, “needed at home”, “caring for baby”, “work”, “no shoes”, “overslept”, “car trouble”, etc.