## ODYSSEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL EXTENDED VACATION POLICY

Adopted May 19, 2015

Odyssey Community School will not accommodate families who voluntarily take students out of school for more than nine days in any school year. We urge families to plan their vacations and travel during our scheduled school breaks. While we understand that there can be educational and cultural benefit to extended travel, we do not think the benefit outweighs the detriment to the student and school community. The education we provide at OCS includes more than academic learning. We strive to build character in our students, foster relationships within the classroom, encourage teamwork within the school and promote outreach to the larger community. This effort is disrupted when students are absent for extended periods of time.

Our policy is in accordance with Connecticut Truancy Law which states that student absences will be considered unexcused after the first nine days, unless accompanied by a doctor's note. See Connecticut General Statute 10-198(a) (2013).