

Penalty Notice fines for school attendance are changing

New National Framework for Penalty Notices has been introduced. Please be advised that these new regulations come directly from the government.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notices will be issued to each adult who lives with or has parental responsibility for the child (this includes step-parents who live with the child)

E.g. 2 siblings absent for 10 sessions (5 days) would result in each parent receiving 2 penalty notices each

Please visit the Gov website to view 'Working together to improve school attendance' for further information

5 days of unauthorised term-time leave

Penalty Notices will be issued for term-time leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the term time leave of 5 days if the intent was to be absent during term-time

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

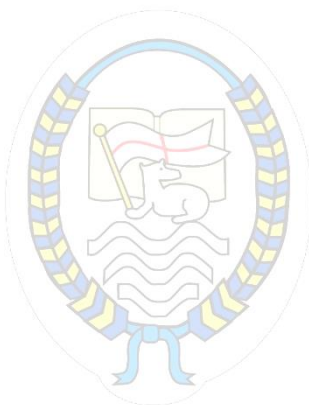
Penalty Notices will be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence within a 10-week period

First offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term-time absence, unauthorised sessions and lateness the cost will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days

Rising to £160 per parent, per child is paid between 21-28 days



Family holidays during term time are not an 'exceptional circumstance' and cannot be authorised

Second offence (within 3 years)

If a further penalty notice is required due to term-term holiday or unauthorised absences the amounts will be:

£160 per parent, per child

Third offence and any further offences (within 3 years)

If a third offence is committed (term-time leave or irregular attendance/lateness), a penalty notice will not be issued. The case will be passed onto the Legal Intervention Team who will prepare evidence for Magistrates' Court. This can result in a fine of up to £2500 per parent, per child. The court may also decide to put a Community Order or Parenting Order in place.

Cases found guilty can show on the parents' future DBS certificate due to failure to safeguard a child's education.