



PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ARE CHANGING!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notices issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that is absent.
For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave = each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines 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 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

First offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance, the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days. Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days. Fines will not be reduced for early payment.

Third offence and any further offences within 3 years

The third time an offence is committed for term time leave or irregular attendance, a penalty notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent per child.

Cases found guilty in a Magistrates' Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

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