

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 Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

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 with 28 days.
Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid with 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 with 28 days.

The threshold for **Penalty Notices** is 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks.

A school week means any week in which there is at least one school session.

This can be met with any combination of unauthorised absence. These absences can be consecutive in one week or over a period of weeks in this period. This period of 10 weeks can also span different terms or school years

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 Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificates due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.