

Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers,



I can't believe it's come to the end of the longest half term of the year; it has flown by! It's been such a positive start to the year as we had the best-ever post-16 results and our GCSE outcomes broke records in a number of subjects. This was in the year when grade boundaries were moved back to 2019 levels and when students were given no additional help after the pandemic. What was so significant about the results for year 11 and year 13 is the next steps they enable our young people to take. I'm delighted that all of those who wished to enter higher education got onto courses of choice and all our Year 11 students have found their places in sixth forms, college, or apprenticeships for September 2023.

I must commend our Year 7 students for the way in which they've settled into secondary school. Their overall effort, engagement and conduct has been fantastic; Ms Stallwood and their tutors are very proud of them so far. Similarly, other Heads of Year have been impressed with their year groups as you'll read below. Possibly my favourite part of the week is to chat with our 10 or so 'Students of the Week' each Friday. These young people are often students who sustain great effort and demonstrate our A.R.K. values in everything they do; but they also include students who have made huge improvements or done something significantly positive to support others or the school.

In our newsletters, we celebrate the successes and achievement of our students, but I'd like to mention our staff. We've welcomed a number of teaching and support staff this term who have been keen to get involved in the life of the school. I'm often in awe of Kineton staff's energy and ambition to offer great memorable experiences for our students, from all the trips that regularly support the curriculum as well as the exciting residential and overseas opportunities. For example, this academic year will see many staff participating in Skiing; Italian adventures and a New York exploration; as well as Berlin for History students.

Teachers have started to evolve research questions this half term, as part of an 'Evidence Informed Practice' project which will be undertaken individually throughout the year. The aim of these enquiries is to develop best practice in the classroom by trying something new to see how students respond and accelerate their progress and engagement. We are doing this under the umbrella of Inclusive Classrooms and our Challenge- for- All agendas in school. Examples of the activities undertaken by teachers last year can be found here:

[Teaching and Learning - Kineton High School](#)



Headteacher's message



Staff are getting ready to move into the new Sports Hall which is having the final touches added over the next week or two. We should be moved in shortly after the half term break which will be very exciting for students who'll be the first to have lessons in there; also, for the local community as lettings will be transferred to the building. Please contact the school for Enquiries or visit our website [here](#).



Finally, a less positive notice:

It has come to the school's attention that a small number of students travelling on one or two of the school bus services have not been behaving in the manner we expect from them. Every young person has the right to travel safely and calmly on the way home and our drivers, who do a fantastic job, should be assured that their buses will be left in a good state at the end of the run. All students will be reminded of this in school.

Please can you impress upon your children the importance of respectful, kind behaviour at all times when travelling to and from school. We work closely with our bus companies and the Warwickshire School Transport service and will take reported incidents very seriously. The consequences of poor conduct could lead to a ban from the bus for a period of time or permanently. We encourage all students to actively report any behaviours that are anti-social or put others at risk. We would like to thank the majority of students who do behave appropriately in school and on the buses.

I wish all our students a safe half term; I'll look forward to seeing them all on 6th November, starting back on week 1.

Ms Bridge



Notices:

- ◆ **The latest safeguarding bulletin:** has been sent out and can be found on our website here: <https://www.kinetonhighschool.org.uk/safeguarding> along with other useful information.
- ◆ **Look out for our next Careers bulletin:** which will be sent out after half term. Further information can be found on our website and if you have questions please contact our Careers Coordinator, Ms Turnbull, on: Turnbull.S@stowevalley.com
<https://www.kinetonhighschool.org.uk/curriculum/careers>
- ◆ **The school menu:** for next term can be found on our website here: <https://www.kinetonhighschool.org.uk/key-information/school-menu> Please be reminded that in order to serve your child, accounts on ParentPay must be in credit.
- ◆ **Warwickshire County Council Online Safety Workshop for parents/carers:** is on Wednesday 29th November 7.30-8.30pm. Please register here: https://smoothwall.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_W_msh4uTZCZlpyrrAN5gQ#/registration
- ◆ **RISE:** offer information and guidance for parents/carers - please visit their website for further information: [For Parents and Carers | CAMHS \(cwrise.com\)](https://www.camhs.nhs.uk/for-parents-and-carers)
- ◆ **Young Minds:** have advice for parents/carers on how to talk to your child about mental health: [How to Talk to Your Child about Mental Health | YoungMinds](https://www.youngminds.org.uk/how-to-talk-to-your-child-about-mental-health)
- ◆ ****Wanted**** Year 9's investigations into Typography this half term means that we now require more printed publications. If you have any flyers, business cards, magazines etc that could be donated then please send them in. In particular we would be grateful to receive any that are DESIGN focussed - e.g. Graphic Design, Interior Design, Home and Garden etc. Students can bring them to Miss Bigham in Room 45, or please leave with reception.

Calendar:

- ◆ *Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November - half term*
- ◆ *Monday 6th November - start of term for all pupils*
- ◆ *Tuesday 7th November - Sixth Form Open Evening 5-7pm*
- ◆ *Wednesday 15th November - Stowe Valley Recruitment Event 6-8pm, Southam*
- ◆ *Thursday 16th November - Year 12 Parents Evening 4-7pm*
- ◆ *Thursday 23rd November - Year 7 PTSA Disco 7-8.30pm*
- ◆ *Thursday 30th November - Year 10 Parents Evening*
- ◆ *Friday 1st December - Teacher training day (school closed to pupils)*
- ◆ *Friday 22nd December - end of term (school closes at 1.10pm)*
- ◆ *Monday 25th December to Friday 5th January - Christmas and New Year break*
- ◆ *Monday 8th January - Teacher Training Day (school closed to pupils)*
- ◆ *Tuesday 9th January - start of term for all pupils*
- ◆ *Thursday 11th January - Year 11 Parents Evening 4-7pm*

Sixth Form Open Evening

We are delighted to invite prospective students and parents/carers to our **Sixth Form Open Evening**.

Kineton High School Sixth Form Open Evening 2023

Tuesday 7th
November 2023 | 5pm – 7pm

Head Teacher and Head of Sixth Form Welcome at 5pm in the main hall.

Join us for an exciting opportunity to learn more about our Sixth Form, student life, teaching and learning and our many enrichment opportunities. We are recruiting students for both A Level and Level 3 Vocational courses from across Warwickshire and North Oxfordshire.


'Following record breaking results and successful Oxbridge applications this really is an exciting time to join us.'

Mr Bonfield Head of Sixth Form

Kineton High School,
Banbury Road, Kineton. CV35 0JX
T: 01926 640465
E: kinetonhighschool@stowevalley.com



 Tuesday 7th November 2023

 5-7pm

 Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form welcome at 5pm in the main hall

At Kineton Sixth we have the highest aspirations for every member of our community as we support them through their post-16 study to secure their destinations of choice. Our impressive Key Stage 5 outcomes demonstrate our commitment to excellent teaching and learning. We are also committed to supporting the personal development of our students, helping them to learn new skills, and encouraging them to take on leadership and enrichment opportunities.

Students at Kineton Sixth Form are able to choose from a variety of academic and vocational courses to create a post-16 package that will allow them to progress on to their desired career path. Kineton Sixth Form offers traditional linear A levels alongside more vocational Level 3 courses that combine both coursework and examination elements in their accreditation.

Mr Bonfield
Head of Sixth Form

Further information and our prospectus can be found online:

<https://www.kinetonhighschool.org.uk/kineton-sixth>

Message from Ms Boyle

I have really enjoyed my first 8 weeks in my new role leading on behaviour and ethos. What an amazing half-term it has been here at Kineton High School. The behaviour team had two new appointments. Mrs McLarnon as Head of Year 9 and Miss Campbell as our new Engagement Tutor. Both have made a massive contribution to our pastoral team. Our engagement tutors Miss Campbell and Miss Mills are working with our students to support them engage fully and attend all lessons.



We have been working very hard on embedding The Kineton Way expectations amongst our school community. Which encompasses our school values kindness, respect and ambition. Our assemblies and tutor time have focused on students understanding our values and how they can consistently engage with The Kineton Way in school. This includes when they are representing the school at sporting events or subject events. To ensure each student achieves personal best in everything that they do both inside and outside the classroom. We want our students to achieve personal best in everything they do.

We have had a busy half-term with rewards. Each week Mrs Bridge and tutors have been awarding student of the week communication to students that have performed above and beyond in a particular week. We also have recognised our most improved students as it is important to recognise the effort some of our students put in to turn things around and ensure they are trying their best. Next half-term is exciting as we will be recognising students that have displayed The Kineton Way in school. We will also have the first of our subject awards just before the Christmas holidays.

It has also been busy with the lead house captains holding weekly meetings to organise house competitions. The annual house competition has started and it looks like Adlington are leading the way at the moment in first place. Followed by Redgrave, Ainslie and then HOY in last place. The lead house captains have also had many meetings with our year group house representatives. They have organised a Spanish movie night for year 7 alongside Ms Sharpe. They have also organised a Dodgeball House Competition this term.

Next half-term is going to be exciting for our students and I cannot wait to see them try to do everything with kindness, respect and ambition.

Ms Boyle
Assistant Headteacher

#thekinetonway #ambition #respect #kindness

Heads of Year messages

Year 7

Huge well done to all the year 7's who have now completed their first half term at Kineton High School. They have all settled in amazingly and I am extremely proud. It has been lovely to see the number of students attending extracurricular clubs; pushing themselves to achieve their best! I can't wait to see some of the students excellent efforts pay off and I am excited to see lots of the year 7 students performing in 'Annie', the school play next term. Keep demonstrating the Kineton Way and our Ark Values.



Festival of Fun

Well done to the students who participated in the year 7 Festival of Fun day at Champion School this half term. It was the first session out of 3 across the year and all students thoroughly enjoyed the day. The day included participating in different sports like archery, curling, bowling and bocha. It was great to see different students participating and we are looking forward to the next two sessions within the year.

Miss Stallwood, Head of Year 7

Year 9

Year 9 have had a fabulous term, getting to grips with their varied timetables and option choices. Our students seem to have really enjoyed the process and have approached their studies seriously, being aware that their choices, work ethic and endeavours this year will impact upon their GCSE options and future success. In assemblies and tutor time, as well as focusing upon our key values of Ambition, Respect and Kindness, we have been starting to focus on the qualities that make great learners, such as really active listening skills. We will go on to develop this next half term with a focus on how to maximise learning, retain information and ultimately how to adopt an effective revision strategy.



As well as our endeavours in school, Year 9 have been playing hard too, with many signing up for the Duke of Edinburgh award and various extra-curricular activities. It would be great if everyone in the year group could try at least one club or activity this year!

Finally, Year 9 have garnered over 5000 house and achievement points this term with "ambition", "effort" and "100% attendance" being prominent amongst the descriptors. What has been particularly lovely to hear are the words of staff praising Year 9 classes for their politeness, enthusiasm and general all-round decency.

It's been a long half term and Year 9 definitely need a rest but they should be proud of the times when they have gone the extra mile; these instances have been many and are very much becoming a hall mark of the year group.

Thank you to everyone for your on-going support and encouragement of our young people.

Mrs McLarnon, Head of Year 9

Year 11

Year 11s have had an excellent start to the year and between them have gained an incredible 14,000 House Points! That's an average of about 78 HP per person, which is very impressive at this point of the year. We also have over 50% of students who are still above 96% attendance, which is fantastic given there are so many bugs about!



Students got their IR1 reports last week. There was some excellent ATL scores, with lots of students getting 3s and 4s in every subject. A special mention must go to the following students who had exceptional ATL scores:

- Emilie H
- Tilly K
- Katie B
- Emily M
- Chloe-Grace P
- Grace C
- Amy R
- Emily G
- Isobel W

Lots of students have now got over 100 HP (one of the thresholds for Prom) and some students are even into the 200s now! Our HP Top 10 at the end of this half term is as follows:

- Jude S
- Toby P
- Isacc B
- Aidan K-B
- Juliet H
- Matthew M
- Isobel W
- Otto W
- Elizabeth F
- Zoe G - almost 250 HP!

Well done to everyone who has been showing out key values this half term. You are about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way through Year 11 learning already - keep going!

Mrs Simpson
Head of Year 11



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

This has been a busy half term launching the scheme for this academic year. We have 43 students signed up to complete their bronze award, 14 for Silver and 7 for Gold.

The silver group have kicked off at pace and have already had a training and planning day in school and a practise expedition to Exmoor. The weather was very changeable but it was fantastic for them to experience navigating across open moorland, through wooded valleys and along the coast. This is only the 2nd year we have used Exmoor but it is a beautiful and varied location which gives so much variety. Well done to all those Silver students who battled torrential rain on the Friday and then beautiful sunshine on the Sunday.

After half term Bronze and Gold get going with their first training day on Sunday 12th November.

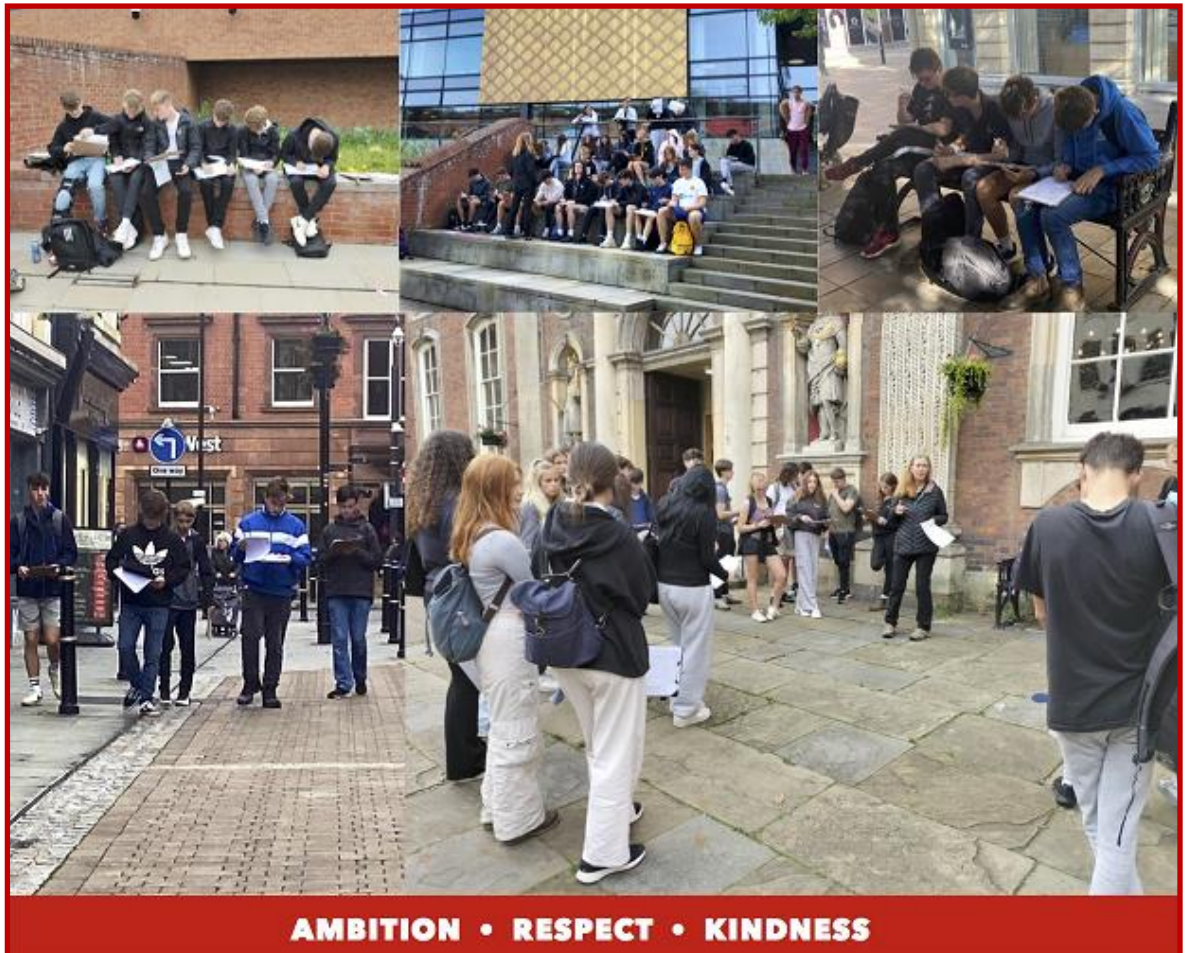
Mrs Briggs, DofE Coordinator



GCSE Geography Fieldtrips

The GCSE Geography Students travelled to Worcester in October for their day of human geography fieldwork. They were looking at change over time in the city centre. The students worked hard carrying out a range of fieldwork skills over three sites. They were a real pleasure to take out over the four days.

Mrs Lovell, Head of Geography



The City of
WORCESTER



Year 7 Food ILTs

Students in Year 7 have produced some fantastic independent learning tasks (ILTs) on Fairtrade in Food this term.

They worked really hard researching information and we are especially proud of the effort they put in with handwriting; well done Year 7!

Ms Jordan, Head of DT



AMBITION • RESPECT • KINDNESS

Year 7 History

In History this term, a group of Year 7 students ran a campaign for William Duke of Normandy to be King of England. They wrote a very effective speech and did win the campaign - the croissants and cakes may have helped their victory!

Mrs McGrattan, Teacher of RE and History



BVL Model Law Commission Project 2023

Congratulations to Ellie-May and Danielle in Year 13 who have been selected to take part in the BVL Model Law Commission Project. This is a three month long project during which students from non-fee paying schools mirror the work of the Law Commission, by assessing and proposing reform ideas for different areas of law.

The Model Law Commission began with a weekend conference on 23 and 24 September 2023, in person at the University of Law in Moorgate, London and has continued online every Thursday evening, up until just before the Christmas break.

The programme concludes with a final event in January, where students will be presenting reform ideas in front of an audience of legal professionals and politicians. This final event will take place in person at the University of Law in Moorgate.

This is a fantastic opportunity for Ellie-May and Danielle to engage with law and legal policy and to improve on their analytical skills, presentational skills and knowledge of the law.

We wish them every success and look forward to hearing more.



Year 7 Art

Year 7 Art students have made some brilliant volcano prints with Miss Webb this half term.



Year 7 and 8 Graphics

Well done to Year 7 and 8 Graphics students who have all been busy completing their ILT projects over the last few weeks.

Year 7 students have got off to a great start in their first rotation, making different pop-up and movable mechanisms. They have conducted further research at home by working on their Mechanisms ILT, making further examples and discovering what the die-cutting process is. This will now help support them as they make their own creations in school.



Year 8 have also completed their Packaging, Branding and Marketing ILTs. They have been finding out about colour association and meanings, logos and branding, as well as how comparing how similar some brands can be to their competitors. They will now be using their findings to help with their Festival design project in school.



Year 8 Art

Students in Year 8 have created some fantastic 3D animals inspired by Artist Henri Rousseau.



Year 8 Geography ILTs

Geography students in Year 8 have completed some fantastic independent learning tasks this half term—their brief was to create a 'Biome in a Box'



Sports News

Cross Country



On Wednesday 20th September students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 took part in the South Warwickshire Cross Country trials. Well done to all who took part and congratulations to the 9 students who made it through to the next round.

Football



Congratulations to our Year 8 football team who have secured 3 successful wins this half term; 3-0 against Alcester Academy, 8-0 against St Benedict's and 8-1 against Shipston.



Well done to our Year 11 football team who beat Shipston 2-0 on Wednesday 4th October.



Tuesday 7th March saw our Year 7 team win their first victory against Alcester Academy with a final score of 3-1.

Sports News

Football



Congratulations to our Year 8 girls football team who achieved a fantastic 4-1 win against Alcester Grammar at the beginning of October.

Hockey



Well done to our Hockey teams played against Shipston on Wednesday 25th October. The boys won 4-2 and the girls lost 3-6. Well done to all for taking part.

Netball



Our Year 8 and 9 Netball teams played against Stratford High on 4th October with some good play observed.



On Wednesday 27th September our Year 11 Netball team played their last South Warwickshire Tournament which included matches against Shipston and Alcester Academy.

Sports News

Year 7 Festival of Fun



Students in Year 7 took part in the South Warwickshire Festival of Fun on Wednesday 11th October.





Leave of Absence

During Term Time 2023-24



Student Absence Procedure

If your child is unwell and cannot attend school please call the **24 hour Absence Line on 01926 645 611 before 8.50am**, stating their name and form, your name and the reason. This must be done for each day they will be absent.

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason other than illness, planned or emergency (part day, full day or multiple days), please always complete a leave of absence form and send it by email to khsattendance@stowevalley.com. This form should be used for all appointments (medical, dental, music exams or external sporting activities), holiday requests, religious observance dates and all other reasons or circumstances where your child will be absent from school.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Unauthorised Absence

There are times when children are absent for reasons, which are not permitted by law. Examples of unauthorised absence are parental illness, term time holidays or a family day out. Where there is no explanation for an absence or where the explanation or reason for the absence is considered unsatisfactory absence will be recorded as 'unauthorised'.

Unauthorised Absences have to be reported to the Local Authority. The Attendance Compliance Enforcement Team may contact you where unauthorised absence continues to be a problem.

Unauthorised absence could result in a Fixed Penalty Fine or other legal action. We are always concerned about the amount of school time pupils miss as a result of term time leave. There is no entitlement to time off during term time. Leave of absence is only granted in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Headteacher in accordance with the school policy as agreed by the governing body.

Leave of Absence forms are available on our website

<https://www.kinetonhighschool.org.uk/key-information/attendance-and-absence>

We greatly appreciate parental support to reduce the total amount of days lost due to holidays. We are committed to working in partnership with you to enable your child to reach their academic targets and to support their social development. For this to happen we need to keep individual attendance as high as possible - we all need to play our part.

It is our policy:

- Only in an exceptional circumstance will term time leave be allowed. Parents/Carers wishing to apply for leave of absence need to fill in an application form well in advance and before booking tickets or making travel arrangements.
- If term time leave is taken without prior permission from the school, the absence will be unauthorised and you may be liable for a fixed-penalty fine or other legal action.
- Please remember that absence for whatever reason disadvantages a child by creating gaps in his/her learning. A good understanding of the work and good progress can only take place when the child is in the classroom regularly and on time.

If you think you have exceptional circumstances please talk to us without delay and before arrangements are entered into or money committed. If exceptional circumstances are accepted the Headteacher will determine how much absence will be authorised. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

The full Attendance policy can be found under <https://www.kinetonhighschool.org.uk/about-us/policies>



Leave of Absence During Term Time 2023-24



The Supreme Court clarified has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The regulations regarding Leave of Absence (The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2006 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.) advise:

Head teachers **shall not grant any** Leave of Absence during term time **unless they consider** there are **exceptional** circumstances relating to the application.

If the leave is granted, Head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. When making an application for Leave of Absence in advance parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis and on its own merits.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'. This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to **each parent of each absent child**, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means **each** parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

Warwickshire School pupils recorded 93,366 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Academic year 2021-22.