Penalty Notice Changes

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following will come into force for absences that start after 19th August 2024. This is nationwide and also across borders if you move school or house.

Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances communicated in advance with evidence provided as soon as possible to the Headteacher.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised 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 of the first offence
The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:
£160 per parent per child paid within 28 days
No reduction for early payment.

Third Offence onwards

Within 3 years of the first offience

The third time an offence is commited for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Fines can be around £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found to be guilty in Magistrates' Court can show as a criminal record and also on the parent's future DBS certificates due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education.

Don't Forget

Penalty Notices are issued **Per Parent, Per Child.**
For example 3 siblings absent would result in each parent receiving 3 fines.
This could amount to £960

Please ensure you communicate with your child's school.

Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances communicated in advance with evidence provided as soon as possible to the Headteacher.

10 sessions in 10 weeks - Penalty Notices will be considered for any 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks.

5 Consecutive days of term time leave can trigger a Penalty Notice

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