



Be our best selves

COUGHTON

C of E Primary School

Issue 04



Key dates



Monday 1 st December	iSing Concerts: At St Peter's Church 10am – Reception & KS1 12pm – Yrs 3 & 4 2pm – Yrs 5 & 6
Wednesday 3 rd December	Christmas Present Room – PTA – in school
Friday 5 th December	School Pantomime
Wednesday 10 th December at 2.00pm	Reception & KS1 Nativity
Thursday 11 th December at 10.0am	Reception & KS1 Nativity
Thursday 11 th December 6.30-8.00pm	KS2 Christmas Disco – at school
Friday 12 th December	Reception & KS1 Christmas Party – in school
Friday 12 th December 3.30-5.30pm	A Coughton Courtyard Christmas PTA event at Coughton Court
Wednesday 17 th December at 9.30am	KS2 Carol Service at St Peter's Church Coughton
Wednesday 17 th December	School Christmas Lunch
Friday 19 th December	School Closes for Christmas Holidays
Monday 22 nd December – Friday 2 nd January	Christmas Holidays
Monday 5 th January	INSET Day school closed for pupils
Tuesday 6 th January	School reopens to pupils

Dear Families,

It has been another incredibly busy couple of weeks. We were thrilled with outcome of our SIAMS inspection. Thank you to the parents who spoke with the lead inspector as part of the process. The report reflected the kindness and dedication shown by staff each day, the engagement with parents and the school community and the effort that the children are putting in during lessons.

This week we have been talking about remembrance, completing activities for anti-bullying week and supporting BBC Children In Need.

It was great to see some of you at the PTA Quiz, congratulations to **Clueless** for winning first prize.

We have lots of events coming up in the run up to Christmas. I have attached a list of Christmas events to the newsletter to try and keep the dates in one place.

We are looking forward to working with I Sing POP which will culminate in a range of performances on Monday 1st December. We are also pleased to announce that we are welcoming the Bishop of Coventry to Coughton in a couple of weeks time!

Parent workshop

We look forward to welcoming you to our English and Mathematics information meeting on Tuesday 18th November in the school hall. This will be led by Miss Woodhouse and Miss Richardson. 9-11am.

Head of School
Mr Alex Kolb

Team points:

Alne: 404
Avon: 328
Arrow: 404

Coughton CE Primary School
Coughton Lane
Coughton
B49 5HN
01789 762444



Coughton CE Primary School

Important updates for Parents and Carers

Uniform

A reminder to name all clothing brought to school so that it can be easily returned to its owner. We are reminding children and allowing time at the end of the day for them to collect all of their things.

The PTA are selling items for £1 each or online via <https://coughton-school-pta.sumupstore.com/>

Holiday / Leave of Absence Requests

All holiday requests will be unauthorised unless the circumstances are deemed exceptional by the Head of School. Should you wish to request leave of absence for your child(ren) please collect a form from the office.

Term dates can be found here:

<https://www.coughtonschool.org/term-dates/>

INSET DAYS

25/26- School, Closed For Children

INSET DAYS 25/26

Monday 1st September 2025

Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Wraparound

We have a digital wraparound booking system. For details and to book a place please follow the link:

<https://coughton.childcare-online-booking.co.uk/>

Breakfast club from 7.30am, after school club until 6pm (Fridays until 5.30pm).



FESTIVE EVENTS CALENDAR

THURS CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP
20TH NOV **7PM - SCHOOL HALL**

WEDS THE CHRISTMAS ROOM
3RD DEC **DURING SCHOOL DAY**

FRI CHRISTMAS PANTO
5TH DEC **DURING SCHOOL DAY**

THURS KS2 CHRISTMAS DISCO
11TH DEC **6.30PM - 8PM, SCHOOL HALL**

FRI KS1 CHRISTMAS PARTY
12TH DEC **DURING SCHOOL DAY**

FRI A COUGHTON COURTYARD CHRISTMAS
12TH DEC **3.30-5.30PM, COUGHTON COURT**

WEDS CHRISTMAS LUNCH
17TH DEC **DURING SCHOOL DAY**

SILLY FRIDAYS:

FRI 21ST NOV: SILLY HAIR DAY / DONATE A JARBOLA
FRI 28TH NOV: FESTIVE HEAD WEAR / DONATE A BOTTLE
FRI 5TH DEC: FESTIVE JUMPERS / DONATE CHOCOLATE



CHRISTMAS
Wreath Making

Thursday

20th

November

From 7pm

Coughton School

£40 per person

Includes all materials, instruction, arrival drink and festive nibbles

Book via www.coughton-school-pta.sumupstore.com/



Applications open for Primary School places

Applying for a primary school place



The applications process opens on 1 November 2025 and the deadline for applying for a Reception or Junior place is **15 January 2026**. If you apply by this date, you will receive your child's school offer on National Offer Day (16 April 2026).

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/primaryplace>



KS2 Art competition

We would like you to show what Christmas means to you. You can draw, paint, collage your design on paper no larger than A4.

The winning entry will feature on our information and service booklets for the KS2 Christmas service.

Please give any entries to Mrs Moss (Year 5) by Monday 1st December



NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

FOR UNDER 18s



Calling all nature lovers, photographers and curious explorers!

Join our Nature Photography Challenge to discover, record and celebrate Alcester's amazing wildlife and habitats.

This could be wildlife, plants, trees, insects or landscapes from around Alcester



OPEN FROM SEPTEMBER 2025 TO AUGUST 2026

Submit your best photos and the winners will feature in the 2027 Alcester in the Wild Calendar.



info@alcester-tc.gov.uk



COUGHTON SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 5.30 - 7.00PM

WE WARMLY INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT OUR SCHOOL, MEET WITH MEMBERS OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND FIND OUT ALL THAT COUGHTON HAS TO OFFER!

TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST PLEASE EMAIL ADMIN3021@WELEARN365.COM

"Be our best selves" www.coughtonschool.org



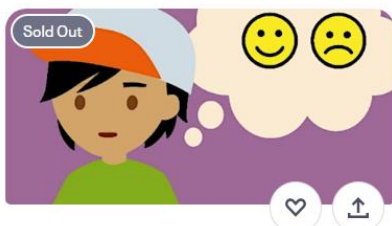


Warwickshire Libraries - What's On Guide

The Autumn/Winter edition of the What's On Guide, showcases the wide range of activities available at Warwickshire Libraries until the end of March 2026.

Libraries offer much more than books! From author talks and creative workshops, to family events and digital learning, there's something for everyone.

<https://library.warwickshire.gov.uk/-/warwickshire-libraries-what-s-on-guide-october-2025-march-2026>



Understanding your teenager Workshop (virtual)

Thu, 27 Nov, 10:00 GMT
Free



Sleep Workshop (Virtual)

Fri, 28 Nov, 09:30 GMT
Free



Parenting Together Workshop (virtual)

Mon, 1 Dec, 17:30 GMT
Free



Money Advice Market

Feeling the pinch of rising costs? You're not alone – and help is at hand!

Join us at the Money Advice Market for practical tips and support to help ease the cost-of-living pressures. From debt advice and energy-saving ideas to housing support and family help, there's something for everyone:

- Expert advice
- Free resources
- Lots of money-saving freebies
- And free refreshments

Location: Rugby Library, Little Elborow St, Rugby CV21 3BZ

Date and time: Friday 14 November 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-parenting-support-71623337213>



We are looking forward to working with I Sing POP on this upcoming project. Hopefully you will be able to join us for the concerts.

We are looking forward to welcoming iSingPOP to Coughton on Monday 24th, Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th November.

iSingPOP helps children and families engage in Collective Worship in school, church and at home. The children will be learning and performing a number of special songs with actions, which will be in line with our school values.

On 1st December 2025, there will be 3 concerts at St Peter's Church, Coughton, where we can join together as a community to celebrate the children's achievements. Due to limited space in the church, we will be offering 3 services which will be split into Key Stage phases.

These will run as follows:

- Concert 1 will begin at 10am for EYFS, year 1 and year 2. **Code: k9bmv**
- Concert 2 will begin at 12pm for year 3 and year 4. **Code: dmbak**
- Concert 3 will begin at 2pm for year 5 and year 6. **Code: 6tp3d**

<https://www.isingpop.org/>



Community Autism Support Service (CASS)

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/community-autism-support-service-cass-62721567983>

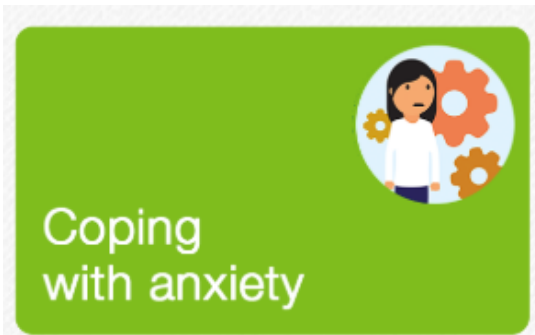


<https://www.facebook.com/WarwickshireFIS/posts/pfbid02fRUtiJyLMutQ7AFnP77M3eccABsG3Vrz5JuQYb21ugseNvFK573NuFzMqpyHZjMil>



Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST) workshops

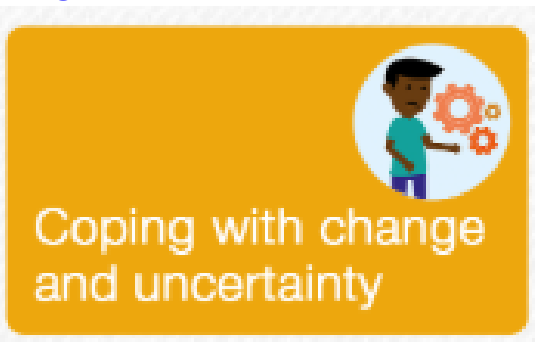
<https://www.facebook.com/WarwickshireFIS/posts/pfbid0GTzZ2c9F7M4JTUK1Uv5pSaUhjwtxWdsqv1rpgH9bvW17D7nNfE2orsM1TwBf8CvI>



<https://cwrise.com/coping-with-anxiety>



<https://cwrise.com/emotional-regulation>



<https://cwrise.com/coping-with-change-and-uncertainty>



Supporting young people's mental health

Understanding and looking after mental wellbeing is just as important as taking care of physical health and it is a good habit to develop as early as possible.

For young people navigating school, exams, friendships, and future choices it's particularly important to give them tools to manage their worries, build confidence and make decisions that set them up for success.

Good mental health and wellbeing improves the ability to learn and engage to help pupils achieve and thrive in education ultimately setting them up for life and work.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6236/supporting-young-people-s-mental-health>

<https://www.wellbeing4life.co.uk/5-ways-wellbeing>

5 ways to wellbeing.

<https://youtu.be/kC4Dg4louVM>



Supporting every child to be in school and involved in education

Regular school attendance and access to education is so important for a child's development, wellbeing and future success.

Consistent attendance and engagement with educational activity not only has a positive impact on academic achievement, as a [recent report](#) has shown, but it is also crucial for a child's social development and overall emotional wellbeing. Being in school or education allows children to learn, reach their full potential, build friendships, participate in extracurricular activities, and access emotional support.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6184/supporting-every-child-to-be-in-school-and-involved-in-education>



Child Benefit: 6 things all parents need to know

[Child Benefit](#) is a universal payment for parents of all children under 16 (under 20 if in full-time education). It's up to £26.05/week (£1,355/yr) for your first child and £17.25/wk (£897/yr) for each additional child. This is meant to ensure every child has at least some funds allocated to help them.

MoneySavingExpert has put together a list of six key need-to-knows.
<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/latesttip/#childbenefit>



Celebrating autumn with the Child Friendly Warwickshire newsletter

This issue features Evelyn's Gift's extraordinary community support, exciting updates on the Warwickshire Youth Council elections, Youth Mental Health Day reflections, and top tips for staying safe and well this autumn.

The newsletter also showcases the adventures of the Child Friendly Warwickshire Bear, highlights from the Youth Conference 2025, and family-friendly activities for the October half-term.

<https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire.gov.uk/childfriendlywarwickshireautumnedition2025?e=7a95476d4b>



'The Run'

Warwickshire Fostering is excited to announce the premiere of 'The Run', a moving short film that highlights the life-changing support a foster family provides.

This film tells the story of Tom, an 11-year-old boy, whose love of running helps him cope with chaos and shows how his new foster family gives him the stability and encouragement he needs to pursue his talent. It's a powerful metaphor for the potential unlocked when a child finds a safe home.

We invite all Warwickshire families to join the online premiere to see this inspirational film and understand the critical need for more local foster carers.

If Tom's story moves you, take the next step: join us for a free online information session on Thursday 16 October at 7:00pm to find out more about fostering for Warwickshire.

<https://fostering.warwickshire.gov.uk/therun>

POWER FOR GOOD

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

This week we have been thinking the impact that bullying has on people. Children have been talking about ways in which they can be kind to each other.

PARENTS

What do you do if you think your child is being bullied?

- First speak to your child's class teacher.
- The Head of School or Assistant Head will deal with the situation if it does not improve.

Useful helplines and websites:

www.bullying.co.uk
www.childline.org.uk
 Tel: 0800 11 111

A free confidential helpline open 24 hours a day

www.parentlineplus.org.uk
 Tel: 0808 800 2222

Advice and support for parents open 24 hours a day

www.kidscape.org.uk
 Tel: 08451 205 204

Helpline for parents and carers of bullied children

BULLYING CAN ALSO HAPPEN ONLINE

Cyber Bullying

It is any form of bullying which takes place online, via smartphones, tablets, gaming, chat forums and social media. If someone is being repeatedly harsh that is the definition of bullying. This can not only happen in person but online as well. Nobody should have to blame themselves or be treated badly.

4 simple steps to stop bullying:

Do not respond to any messages –most of the time, bullies are only after a reaction so don't let them have this from you.

Screenshot any messages that are harmful or hurtful.

Mute accounts so you can no longer see the users. You can hide messages or posts from users without them ever finding out? Using mute or similar features on social media still shows you following other users, but their updates do not appear in your feeds or timelines. Check the settings page on social media sites to find out how to do this. If you accidentally muted someone, you can also 'unmute' them without them knowing either!

Tell someone – take the message that you have screenshotted, and show a trusted adult, so something can be done about the offending users.

If you are the person performing the bullying then you can visit ditchthebulb.org for help and information.

Parents does your child have a smartphone/tablet? Or are you thinking of getting them one? No matter which one you purchase the only important thing is that you keep them safe whilst they are using it.

Parental controls are really useful as they can protect your child from harmful content. It is well worth installing if you haven't parental controls. Make sure you think before you letting your child have certain accounts on apps.

These websites are full of valuable advice for parents to support in keeping children safe online.

www.facebook.com/stayingssafeonline
www.internetmatters.org.uk



Be our best selves

COUGHTON
C of E Primary School

If someone shows kindness to you make sure to show it back

Always be yourself don't let anybody stop you from being that!

If somebody is not respecting you just ignore them and don't retaliate

POWER FOR GOOD
#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

A CHILD'S RIGHTS :

- 1.To have clean food and water
- 2.The right to be loved and to love
3. The right to not get hurt or exploited
4. To have a loving family
- 5.To have medication if necessary
- 6.The right to be themselves
- 7.The right to live in peace
- 8.The right to be one of the first to get protection
- 9.The right to go to school for free

All children must grow up with these rights no matter what race, gender, religion or what class they attend. Always be a kind and positive person to other people, never be a mean person because then people will not want to be friends

Remember you need to:



Use your Network Hand!

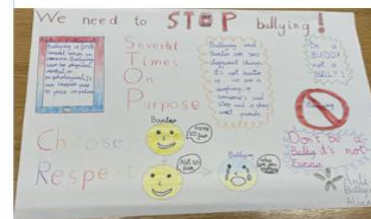
WHAT IS BULLYING?

A definition of bullying

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies.

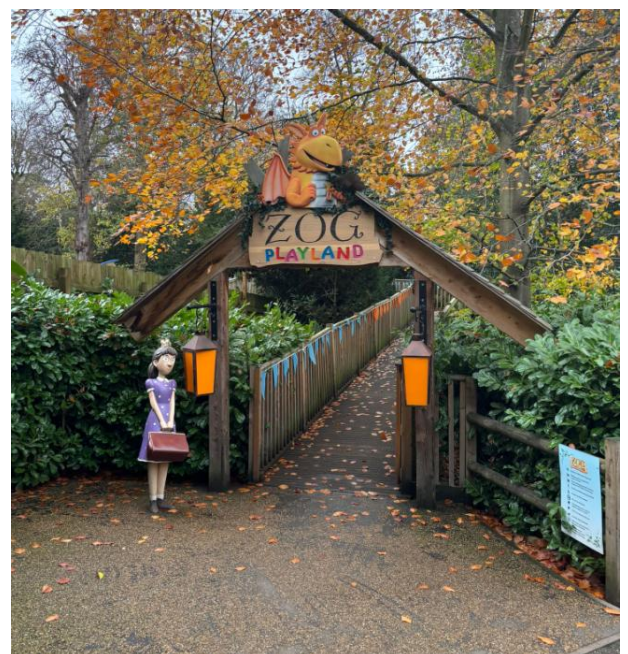


If you are getting bullied tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. You can call child line (0800 1111). Tell someone you trust right away!



Several Start
Times Telling
On Other
Purpose People

Made by Tabitha, Lara, Christina and Anoushka.

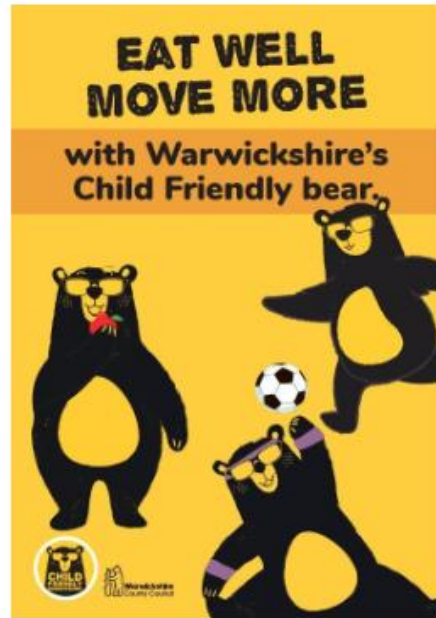


Birch had a great trip to Warwick Castle.



Remembrance 2025





Eat Well, Move More with our Warwickshire Child Friendly Bear

To start the conversation with your children in a fun and engaging way, we've created a new activity book under the Eat Well, Move More campaign. The booklet is packed with fun activities such as colouring pages, find the differences, help the bear eat healthy, and more to make it easier to talk about healthy eating choices and being active. We hope these activities will encourage healthier food choices and more physical activity.

Workbook link:

<https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-1980322935-3142>

Move more

A healthy lifestyle also involves plenty of physical activity. Children should ideally be active for at least 60 minutes a day, with 30 minutes taking place outside of school. This can be broken into short 10-minute bursts—they could try scootering to school, skipping to the shops, or dancing to a song!

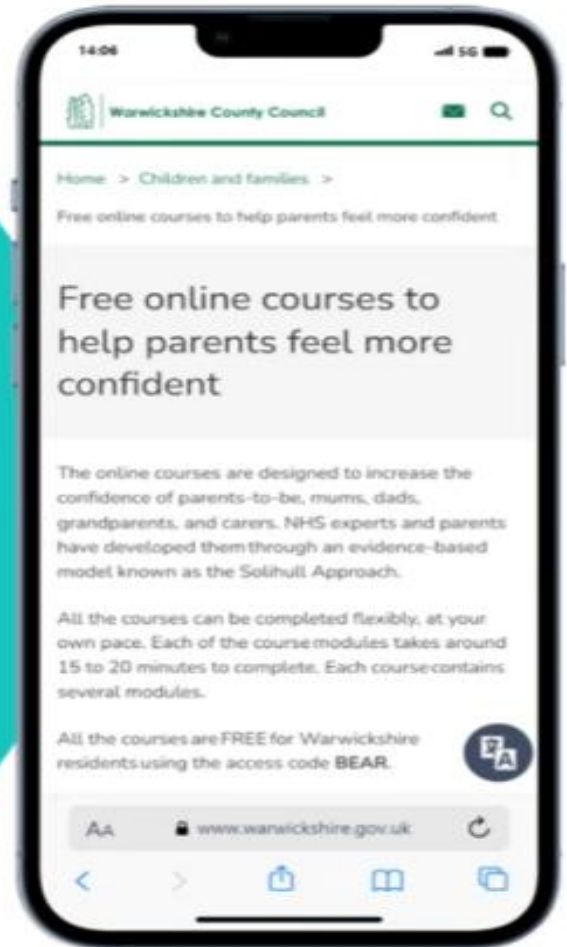
There are lots of ways to encourage children to be more active. Make exercise fun by turning activities into games like tag, hide-and-seek, or dancing. Walk or bike to school if possible or visit a local park for a family walk. Warwickshire also offers a range of after-school sports clubs where young people can stay fit while developing socially.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/homepage/462/get-active>



An online course to help you Understanding your child with additional needs

visit
[warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides)
to get started for free



Free

**'Understanding your child with additional needs'
course is for parents and carers of children who
may be neurodiverse, or have a physical or
learning disability**

Whatever their developmental age, these ideas and techniques may help you better understand your child and how to help process or manage their emotions.

Use the code **BEAR** to get free access.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides>

Protective Behaviours

– what's that?



Protective Behaviours (PBs) is an internal process where each person applies the ideas to their own unique experience. This paper looks at what Protective Behaviours is and some of its uses. It is intended as an information paper with the hope the reader will see its relevance to their specific interests and will then attend training.

The PBs process is presented here as separate sections. In practice, all interact and support each other - to take one section out leaves the others incomplete.

Unwritten rules of society

We see how certain rules of society have a powerful influence on our choices of behaviour. Whilst these rules can be positive and help guide our interactions, many of them tell us we should, ought, or must behave in a particular way. For instance, children should do as adults tell them; professionals should always have the answer; men should not show their feelings and women should behave in a ladylike manner. These rules are not written down, are often contradictory and may not fit with our own experience. During training we look at their function, how they develop, their effects and why we may choose to follow them or not.

Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviours

During this session we look at the interaction between our feelings, thoughts and behaviour. We see that feelings are feelings, neither right nor wrong, good nor bad, positive nor negative. Some people seem to mask one feeling with another or use behaviour as a way of avoiding or covering feelings. We look at how behaviour is a choice with an effect. These effects may involve others as well as ourselves. Sometimes we do not know what our choices are or they may be limited by factors we cannot change. Once we are in touch with our feelings it helps free us to use our thinking. Our thinking can influence both our feelings and behaviour.

Theme 1 'We all have the right to feel safe all the time'

We explore this theme in detail, carefully looking at the connection between rights and responsibilities. We also take the concepts of blame and punishment out of commonly held ideas associated with responsibilities. Instead we focus on the 'ability to respond' contained within the meaning of the word. The difference between having a responsibility for ourselves and to others is also examined. Next we discover for ourselves the difference between feeling safe, fun to feel scared (adventurous), risking on purpose (which may not feel like fun but we want the goal at the end) and feeling unsafe. These differences are recognised by what we call our 'Early Warning Signs' (EWS), the specific bodily responses which tell us when we do not feel safe. These universal body signs mean Protective Behaviours is accessible to all people, irrespective of age, gender, sexuality, nationality, ability or belief system.

Theme 2 'We can talk with someone about anything, even if feels awful or small'

This theme is also explored in detail. In particular we focus on the ideas and effects of 'talking', and what might happen if we do not believe this theme. We encourage everyone to develop their personal networks of support; those people they could turn to if in need. Desired qualities of network people are identified and we examine how we would know if someone has these qualities. Types of networks and ways of letting people know we need to talk with them are also explored.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court 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 law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence 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. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' 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 is expected 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. 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.

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'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

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 – 4 in total).

- First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
- Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.
 - **Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.**

2025/2026 Leave of absence

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices is due to change with effect from 1 September 2024. Therefore Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absences taken after this date will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- 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 – 4 in total).
 - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
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Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.

Warwickshire Attendance Service