

Higher Walton CE Primary School

School Term and Holiday Dates 2026-27

Autumn Term 2026	
INSET day (closed to pupils)	Tuesday 1st September 2026
School Reopens	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Mid Term Closure (normal time)	Friday 23rd October 2026
School Reopens	Monday 2nd November 2026
Term Closure	Friday 18th December 2026
Spring Term 2027	
INSET day (closed to pupils)	Monday 4th January 2027
School Reopens	Tuesday 5th January 2027
Mid Term Closure	Friday 12th February 2027
School Reopens	Monday 22nd February 2027
Term Closure	Thursday 25th March 2027
Summer Term 2027	
School Reopens	Monday 12th April 2027
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May 2027
Mid Term Closure	Friday 28th May 2027
INSET day (closed to pupils)	Monday 7th June 2027
INSET day (closed to pupils)	Tuesday 8th June 2027
School Reopens	Wednesday 9th June 2027
Term Closure	Tuesday 20th July 2027
INSET day (closed to pupils)	Wednesday 21st July 2027
Total days in School – 190	
Total INSET days - 5	

Leave requests - It is a legal requirement for parents/carers to obtain the permission of the Headteacher **before** removing their child from school in order to take any leave in term time. Forms available from the office. Parents do not have an automatic right to take their children out of school for leave during term time without prior arrangement with the Headteacher. The legislation only allows the Headteacher to authorise such leave in exceptional circumstances.

Penalty Notices - At Higher Walton C of E Primary School, the governing body have made the decision to issue penalty notices for holidays, periods of unauthorised absence and persistent lateness in line with the government's current guidance.¹

The threshold at which a penalty notice must be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period. A school week is any week in which a school meets at least once. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the registers closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.

Penalty notices are charged at the rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days. Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3 year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.

A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3 year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).

Further information about Penalty Notices and prosecution can be found on the Lancashire County Council website.²

¹ www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance

² www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/pay-an-education-penalty-notice