

## Important Update – Changes to Education-related Penalty Notices Information for Parents

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes will come into effect on 19 August 2024.

The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new 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.
- 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<sup>1</sup>. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- 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).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

Absences can have a lasting effect on learning

Missing a week of school means your child will miss around 25 hours of learning  
This creates gaps in their knowledge and could mean they will not meet their full potential

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

95%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 9.5 days or 1 week & 4.5 days of learning missed
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 19 days or 3 weeks & 4 days of learning missed
85%	=	143 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 28.5 days or 5 weeks & 3.5 days of learning missed
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 38 days or 7 weeks & 3 days of learning missed
75%	=	237.5 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 47.5 days or 9 weeks & 2.5 days of learning missed

**EVERY  
DAY  
MATTERS!**  
**WHAT DO YOUR  
ATTENDANCE  
FIGURES ACTUALLY  
MEAN?**

PERCENTAGES BASED ON 190  
ACADEMIC DAYS

<sup>1</sup> A school week is any week in which a school meets at least once.

