

# Educational Penalty Notices are changing

Changes will come into force for fines issued after 19th August 2024



## 1<sup>st</sup> offence

the first Penalty Notice issued will be:

£80 per parent per child, if paid within 21 days

£160 per parent per child, if paid within 28 days

Penalty Notice Fines are issued for Term Time leave of:

10 sessions (5 days) of consecutive unauthorised absence

10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period

### per parent, per child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent. For example, 3 siblings absent for term time leave would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> offence within 3 years

the second Penalty Notice issued will be:

£160 per parent per child, to be paid within 28 days - with no reduced rate offered

### why attend every day?

Missing school damages a child's learning and grades. Research shows that 6 in 10 young people who miss school for 17 days or more do not get good GCSE grades.

Missing school regularly could affect your child's chances in life - their ability to get into university or be accepted into a qualification of their choice.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> offence

the third offence for term time absence or irregular attendance will not be issued

the case will be presented straight to magistrates for failure to safeguard a child's education.

magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent per child.

### magistrates' court

Parents/Carers commit an offence if a child doesn't attend school regularly and the absence is not agreed by the school. In some cases, unauthorised absence may result in prosecution under Section 444 of Education Act 1996, which may lead to a criminal record.

Cases found guilty in Magistrate's Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to "failure to safeguard a child's education"