



Luton

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

I am writing to inform you about the government statutory guidance “**Working Together to improve school attendance**” which will come into effect from **19th August 2024**.

Please make a note of the following changes: -

Per Parent/Per Child Penalty Notices

- Penalty Notices for absences will be issued per child, per parent. This means that if multiple siblings are absent during term time and the absences are unauthorised by the school each parent will receive a separate fine for each child's absence. Penalty Notices will be issued by the local authority, and the payment will be made directly to them. This is dealt with by the local authority's **Attendance Support Team** (previously known as Education Welfare Service).

First Offence Penalties

- The first penalty notice issued to each parent in respect of a particular pupil will be charged at:
£160.00 if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

- A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same pupil is charged at:
A flat rate of £160.00 if paid within 28 days.

Third Offence and any further offences (within 3 years)

- A third penalty notice cannot be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of issue of the first. In a case where the national threshold is met for a third time (or subsequent times) within those 3 years, alternative action will be taken instead. This will often include considering **prosecution** but may include other tools such as one of the other attendance legal interventions.

10 Sessions (5 days) of Unauthorised Absence in a 10-week period

- Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there have been 10 sessions (which is the same as 5 days) of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Hope you and your family enjoy the summer break.

We look forward to welcoming you back at school in September 2024.

Yours faithfully

Mrs R Nisar
Headteacher