



Fixed penalty notices are changing

Information for parents and carers

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In the news

From 19th August 2024 the process for issuing fines for unauthorised absence will change - this will include not only the criteria but also the cost.

Under the new national framework, schools must consider whether a penalty notice is appropriate in each individual case where one of their pupils reaches the national threshold for considering a penalty notice.

The threshold is 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks. A school week means any week in which there is at least one school session.

What do I need to know?

First Offence: The first penalty notice issued to the parent for a child for unauthorised absence will be charged at £160.00 if paid within 28 days reducing to £80.00 if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence: A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same child for unauthorised absence is charged at £160.00 if paid within 28 days

Third Offence: A third fixed penalty notice cannot be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child for unauthorised absence within 3 years of the date the first fixed penalty notice was issued. In this instance prosecution will be considered or an alternative attendance legal intervention.