

## **PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE HAVE CHANGED!**

With the introduction of the New National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes came into force on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

### **PENALTY NOTICES WILL BE ISSUED FOR**

**Term time leave:** Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive or accumulative days.

**10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period** A Penalty Notice may be considered/issued when a pupil has had 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week\* period. (\*school week's)

### **PER PARENT/PER CHILD**

Penalty Notice Fines continue to be issued per parent per child.

For example: 3 Siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

### **FIRST OFFENCE**

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term Time Holiday or Irregular School Attendance the Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of issue, reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days\*\*.

### **SECOND OFFENCE** (within 3 years of the First Offence)

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second Penalty Notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first notice, the second Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 if paid within 28 days (no reduced fee for paying early).

(\*\*Unpaid Penalty Notice's after 28 days may result in a parental prosecution)

### **THIRD OFFENCE** (within 3 years of the First Offence)

On the third time that an offence is committed for either a Term Time Holiday and / or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, the case may proceed straight to Parental Prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure. If found guilty of the offence of 'Failure to send a child to school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1000. Other prosecution tools may also be considered.