PARKVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

School Attendance is the Responsibility of Everyone

Every moment in school counts and missed days add up quickly. Missing school means that children fall behind. This not only impacts on their future achievement, but also adds additional stress and worry as the pupil attempts to catch up on missed lessons. Evidence shows that pupils who have good attendance enjoy better wellbeing and school performance than those that don't.

We will always try to offer support to remove barriers to attendance before considering any form of legal intervention, however we can only do this with the support of parents. If you do not engage with this support the school may feel that they have no choice than to request the Local Authority consider taking legal action against you for failure to secure your child's regular attendance at school under section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996.

Can my child take a holiday in term time?

The simple answer is **NO –** pupils can only take leave of absence during term time if this is approved in advance by the Headteacher. Please complete a leave of absence form that can be obtained from the school office. Leave taken without permission may result in a penalty notice and or prosecution.

Penalty Notice Fines For School Attendance Has Changed

The Department for Education introduced a new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the changes below came into force for Penalty Notice Fines for unauthorised leave of absence after **19th August 2024**.

Education Penalty Notices are issued to the parents of statutory school age children and can be issued to each parent or carer who is deemed liable for the child's absence from school.

- First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:
£160 per parent, per child paid within **28 days**.
This is reduced to £80 per parent per child if paid within **21 days**

- Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a penalty Notice is issued for Term Time absence or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days. **There is no option for a reduced amount if paid earlier**.

- Third Offence and Any Further Offences

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Children who receive 10 unauthorised absence sessions within a ten week period will also face the above penalties.

