

Attendance Updates

What are the changes?

- The Department for Education has issued new statutory guidance for attendance called **Working Together to Improve School Attendance**. This comes into effect on the 19th August 2024. It details what schools, parents/carers and local authorities should do to improve pupils' attendance at school.
- There are some important changes to attendance management from the 19th August 2024 which will affect the support parents and pupils receive from schools, and the legal sanctions that are used in certain circumstances.
- Schools are legally obliged to provide support and intervention for pupils who are at risk of persistent absence (90% attendance or below). This will take the form of meetings with parents/carers, school-based interventions, and the offer of support from outside agencies and professionals.
- We are very keen to identify the barriers to attendance that families face and will welcome opportunities to overcome these barriers together. However, when a child's attendance falls outside of the parental legal obligations to send their child to school, there are legal pathways that must be followed.
- Information of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices is included within this update. Please note that this framework applies to all schools in England.

National Framework for Penalty Notices

(Department for Education, with effect from 19th August 2024)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>

1 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 if paid within 28 days (paid directly to the Local Authority).
- Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

2 Second Offence (within 3 years)

- The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, the amount will be:
- £160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days (paid directly to the Local Authority).
- No reduced rate will be offered.

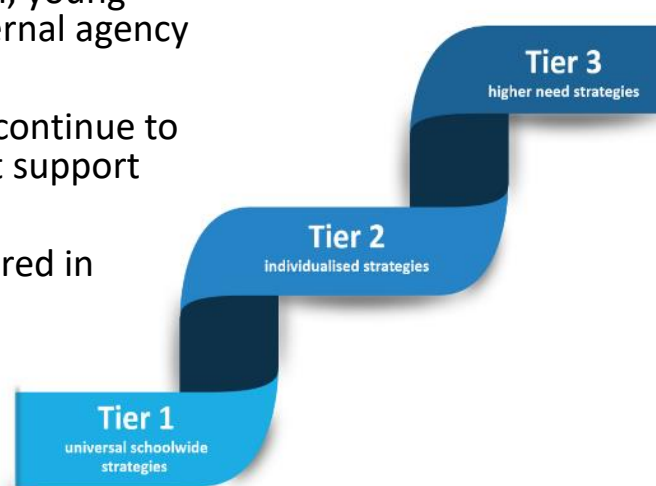
3 Third Offence and any further offences (within 3 years)

- 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 to the Magistrates' Court.
- Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.
- Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period
Penalty Notice Fines will be considered by the Local Authority when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.

Multi-Tiered System of Support

- The Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), ensures comprehensive attendance intervention for all children. The system incorporates staff, children, parents and carers, and external agencies. This comprises of three Tiers:
- **Tier 1** provides a universal offering to all children.
- **Tier 2** involves early internal support and intervention.
- **Tier 3** is higher levels of support for children, young people and families who require access to external agency support.
- Across Brooke Weston Trust, all academies continue to strive to ensure that children have the relevant support needed to be able to attend school daily.
- Further information of the MTSS will be shared in September 2024.



School starts promptly at **8.45am.**

Door opening and lining up starts at **8.45am.**

Pupils arriving **after 8.45am** will be marked as late.

All registers **close at 9:15am.** The late sign-in code used after this time will constitute as an absence and negatively impact a pupil's attendance record.

