Heronshaw School | Lichfield Down | Walnut Tree | Milton Keynes | MK7 7PG
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Dear Parents,

Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing.

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024. These will apply to all schools across the country.
Per Parent, Per Child Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent. For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.
5 consecutive days of term time leave Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.
10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period. These can include late arrivals after registration (After 9 am)
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. 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 Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.
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 straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

The new attendance policy will reflect these changes and will be available on the website in September. If you have any questions or need clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Bridget Nicholls

Pastoral Lead