

# Meadowhead School and Sixth Form



## Attendance Policy

This is a policy of Meadowhead School and Sixth Form.

Meadowhead School and Sixth Form is a Foundation School  
and a member of Meadowhead Together

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## **Aims**

This policy aims to show our commitment to meeting our obligations with regards to school attendance, including those laid out in the Department for Education's (DfE's) statutory guidance on [working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\)](#), through our whole-school culture and ethos that values good attendance, including:

- Setting high expectations for the attendance and punctuality of all students
- Promoting good attendance and the benefits of good attendance
- Reducing absence, including persistent and severe absence
- Ensuring every student has access to the full-time education to which they are entitled
- Acting early to address patterns of absence
- Building strong relationships with families to make sure students have the support in place to attend school

We will also promote and support punctuality in attending lessons.

## **Legislation and guidance**

This policy is based on the Department for Education's (DfE's) statutory guidance on [working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\)](#) and [school attendance parental responsibility measures](#). The guidance is based on the following pieces of legislation, which set out the legal powers and duties that govern school attendance:

- Part 6 of the [Education Act 1996](#)
- Part 3 of the [Education Act 2002](#)
- Part 7 of the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#)
- [The Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006 \(and 2010, 2011, 2013, and 2016 amendments\)](#)
- [The Education \(Penalty Notices\) \(England\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2013](#)

It also refers to:

- [School census guidance](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)
- [Mental health issues affecting a pupil's attendance: guidance for schools](#)

The 1996 Education Act requires that:

- all pupils of compulsory school age receive suitable full-time education by regular attendance at school.
- the Local Authority must provide school places to parents who wish their children to be educated at school.
- the school must complete attendance registers at the beginning of the morning session and during the afternoon session.
- the school must report to the Local Authority pupils who fail to attend regularly or are absent for more than ten days without explanation.
- the Local Authority has a duty to ensure that parents fulfil their legal responsibilities.
- failure by parents to ensure the regular attendance at school of a registered pupil is an offence punishable by law.

**Core principles as directed by DFE guidance 'Working together to improve school attendance – August 2024'. Meadowhead School will:**

- Build strong relationships and work jointly with families, listening to and understanding barriers to attendance and working in partnership with families to remove them.
- Develop and maintain a whole school culture that promotes the benefits of high attendance.
- Have a clear school attendance policy which all staff, pupils and parents understand.
- Accurately complete admission and attendance registers and have effective day to day processes in place to follow-up absence.
- Regularly monitor and analyse attendance and absence data to identify pupils or cohorts that require support with their attendance and put effective strategies in place.
- Share information and work collaboratively with other schools in the area, local authorities, and other partners where a pupil's absence is at risk of becoming persistent or severe.
- Be particularly mindful of pupils absent from school due to mental or physical ill health or their special educational needs and/or disabilities, and provide them with additional support.
- Facilitate effective working across the local authority area, schools are expected to inform a pupil's social worker and/or youth offending team worker if there are unexplained absences from school.

### **Policy Statement**

Meadowhead School seeks to ensure that all of its students receive a full-time education which will maximise the opportunities for each student to realise their true potential. **We expect every student to be in school every day school is open.** There is a clear link between attendance and achievement alongside the development of social, emotional and personal skills.

We recognise that attendance is 'everyone's business', all of the time and this policy should be viewed alongside the safeguarding, bullying, behaviour and SEND policies. We will work with families to identify the barriers for poor attendance and try to resolve any issues.

### **Why is regular attendance so important?**

The school will strive to provide a welcoming, caring environment, where each member of the school community feels wanted and secure. School staff will work with students and their families to ensure each student attends school every day and on time, unless the reason is unavoidable.

Good attendance supports students to become resilient, confident and competent individuals.

Failure to attend school on a regular basis will be considered a safeguarding issue.

The school will establish an effective system of incentives and rewards which acknowledges the efforts of students to improve their attendance and timekeeping, and will challenge students and parents who give low priority to attendance and punctuality. To meet these objectives, Meadowhead School will establish an effective and efficient system of communication with students, parents and appropriate agencies to provide mutual information, advice and support.

## **Whole-school approach to school attendance**

Meadowhead School aims to:

- Make attendance and punctuality a priority for all those associated with the school including students, parents, teachers, support staff and governors.
- Building strong relationships with families, listen to and address any barriers to attendance.
- Act early to address patterns of absence.
- Promote the link between attendance, educational outcomes and student wellbeing.
- Develop a framework which defines agreed roles and responsibilities and promotes consistency in carrying out designated tasks.
- Develop a systematic approach to gathering and analysing attendance-related data.
- Implement a system of rewards and sanctions.
- Promote effective partnerships with external services and agencies.
- Recognise the needs and support of the individual person when planning reintegration following significant periods of absence.

## **What parents/carers and students can expect from school**

- A broad, balanced education that is dependent upon regular attendance at school.
- Promotion of good attendance and punctuality at school, and regular encouragement and rewards.
- Efficient and accurate recording and monitoring of absence.
- First-day contact with parents/carers when absence is unexplained.
- Prompt action when a problem has been identified.
- Liaison with officers from the Local Authority to assist and support families where needed.
- Regular communication with parents/carers.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

The roles and responsibilities of everyone who has a responsibility to secure good attendance of students are set out in the table below.

<b>Students</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To attend every day school is open.</li><li>• Be prepared for the day with appropriate equipment e.g., PE kit, pen, pencil, ruler, calculator, and in full school uniform.</li><li>• Be punctual to registration and all lessons.</li><li>• Sign in using the inventory if arriving after the first bell.</li><li>• To get permission from school prior to leaving the school site during school hours.</li></ul>
<b>Parents and Carers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To ensure their child attends every day and on time.</li><li>• Read Meadowhead School's Attendance Policy</li><li>• Contact staff if there is an issue which is preventing your child attending.</li><li>• Provide reason for each day's absence before 8:30am and every day they continue to be absent.</li><li>• Book routine appointments after school and at weekends.</li><li>• Provide medical evidence if required.</li><li>• Aim to ensure your child does not miss more than half a day to attend an unavoidable appointment.</li><li>• Contact Pastoral manager/Head of Year to arrange a reintegration package when returning after a long-term absence.</li><li>• Ensure that no holidays are booked during term time.</li><li>• Ensure your child is equipped and ready to learn.</li><li>• Ensure the school has up to date contact details for all parents/carers.</li></ul>
<b>Form Tutors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Take official electronic (ClassCharts) register within the first 5 minutes of form time.</li><li>• Report attendance concerns to relevant school staff including the attendance team.</li><li>• Promote the importance of attending every day.</li><li>• Welcome students on return to school following absence.</li><li>• Provide a positive learning environment.</li><li>• Promote and get involved with attendance competitions.</li><li>• Identify emerging patterns of student absence within their own form groups.</li><li>• Have a first contact/discussion with the student about their absence.</li><li>• Discuss all absences with students using weekly RAG rated attendance data.</li></ul>
<b>Class Teacher</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The class teacher has a statutory duty to take the official register within the first 5 minutes of the lesson starting.</li><li>• Report attendance concerns to relevant school staff.</li><li>• Maintain accurate attendance records by recording students arriving late lesson.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alert relevant staff (on call) of any students absent from lesson but marked present on previous registers.</li> <li>• Promote the importance of good attendance.</li> <li>• Welcome students on return to school following absence.</li> <li>• Provide a positive learning environment that ensures equality of access for all.</li> <li>• Put strategies in place, as advised by the SEND and pastoral teams to ensure specific needs are met.</li> <li>• Promote and get involved with attendance rewards.</li> <li>• Identify emerging patterns of attendance issues within own class groups and work to remove any barriers identified.</li> <li>• Encourage students to come to school daily.</li> <li>• Discuss attendance at parental events.</li> <li>• Refer attendance concerns to the attendance team</li> </ul>
<p><b>Attendance Team</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the Meadowhead School Attendance Policy.</li> <li>• Maintain accurate attendance records.</li> <li>• Contact parents/carers who have not notified their child's reason for absence on the same day.</li> <li>• Welcome students on return to school following absence.</li> <li>• Conduct safe and well visits.</li> <li>• Make home visits to persistently absent students or those at risk of being PA.</li> <li>• Provide advice and support to school staff regarding attendance and punctuality issues.</li> <li>• Track attendance and identify emerging trends and patterns at individual and cohort level.</li> <li>• Have responsibility for investigating and, where necessary, reporting incidents of children who are Missing from Education to the local authority</li> <li>• Liaise with the local authority regarding requests from parents/carers to electively home educate their child/ren.</li> <li>• Evaluate and share attendance data.</li> <li>• Meet with Pastoral Managers to discuss individual students whose attendance is of concern and agree action as necessary.</li> <li>• Liaise with school staff and external professionals regarding attendance and punctuality of identified students, agree interventions and support,</li> <li>• Make contact with parents/carers where concern is raised regarding a child's attendance</li> <li>• Discuss issues affecting attendance and punctuality with parents/carers and clearly outline their legal responsibilities and requirements</li> <li>• Record and maintain accurate student records following contact (SIMS).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback to school staff within the agreed timescale.</li> <li>• Work with school staff, parents/carers and students to promote good attendance.</li> <li>• Take part in initiatives to promote attendance and punctuality e.g., parent's evenings.</li> <li>• Meet half-termly with the Local Authority Attendance and Inclusion specialist to discuss cases for legal action, prepare and submit legal paperwork/case profiles where necessary.</li> <li>• Process term time leave requests.</li> <li>• Termly meeting with feeder school attendance leads to share good practice and identify attendance concerns.</li> <li>• Attend the LEA's networking/best practice information sessions.</li> </ul>
<b>Pastoral Managers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the Meadowhead Attendance policy.</li> <li>• Have an oversight of attendance across their year group.</li> <li>• Monitor registers and update SIMS on a weekly basis.</li> <li>• Meet five weekly with the Attendance Team to discuss individual students whose attendance is of concern and agree action as necessary.</li> <li>• Track attendance and identify emerging trends and patterns at individual and cohort level.</li> <li>• Attend meetings with the attendance team and other professionals as necessary.</li> <li>• Provide certificates and other rewards for students in their year group who attend well.</li> <li>• Update registers as required when children are placed elsewhere in school.</li> <li>• Welcome students on return to school following absence.</li> <li>• Keep SIMS up to date with reasons for absence, details of phone calls home, interventions and additional support – including monitoring the impact of such support.</li> <li>• Work with external agencies where necessary to support the child/family.</li> <li>• Attendance is a standing item at every meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>Safeguarding Team</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the Meadowhead Attendance Policy</li> <li>• Have an overview of student attendance.</li> <li>• Assisting with parent/carers meetings where safeguarding is a factor.</li> <li>• Inform allocated social workers of student absence/attendance on a daily/weekly basis.</li> <li>• Attendance is a standing item at every meeting (TAF/CIN/CP/LAC Review).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet weekly with the attendance team to discuss individual students whose attendance is of concern and agree action as necessary.</li> </ul>
<b>Behaviour Managers/ISR/ Student services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update registers as interventions are agreed (e.g., placed in ISR/Office).</li> </ul>
<b>Heads of Year and Assistant Heads of Year.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with the Deputy Head (Inclusion/Support) and their pastoral manager regarding attendance and punctuality.</li> <li>• Lead developments to improve attendance.</li> <li>• Oversee the procedures undertaken to improve attendance and punctuality within their year group.</li> <li>• Identify appropriate target groups using attendance data.</li> <li>• Attend meetings with the attendance team as necessary.</li> <li>• Develop systems of rewards for good attendance and punctuality.</li> <li>• Ensure that all students recognise the links between good attendance and attainment.</li> </ul>
<b>Deputy Headteacher - Inclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead and promote whole school attendance.</li> <li>• Provide advice and support to school staff regarding attendance and punctuality issues.</li> <li>• Implement targets, review statistics and amend policy as necessary.</li> <li>• Hold regular meeting with the attendance manager.</li> <li>• Ensure that school is fully compliant with national attendance regulations, guidelines and legislation.</li> </ul>
<b>Headteacher</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have overall responsibility for attendance within school.</li> </ul>
<b>Governors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide strategic challenge and support to school leaders.</li> <li>• Ensure that school is fully compliant with national attendance regulations, guidelines and legislation.</li> <li>• Monitor implementation of the Meadowhead School's attendance policy.</li> <li>• Maintain an overview of attendance through reports provided by the senior leadership team.</li> <li>• Attend school attendance meetings if required.</li> <li>• Review and approve the school attendance policy.</li> </ul>

## **Being Notified that a Child has a Medical Condition**

Some children have a medical condition which may prevent them from attending school regularly. When the school is notified that a student has a medical condition, the process outlined below will be followed to decide whether the student requires an Individual Health Plan (IHP). If a student does not have an IHP then the school will consult with the local authority and consider using the GP Protocol.

If an IHP is in place, the school will make every effort to ensure the arrangements are put in place as soon as practicable.

Parents will be asked to:

- Provide the school with sufficient and up to date information about their child's medical needs. This could be a hospital or GP letter.
- Be involved in the development and review of their child's IHP.
- Carry out any action they have agreed to as part of the implementation of the IHP, e.g., provide medicine and equipment, and ensure they or another nominated adult are contactable at all times.

Students with medical conditions are often best placed to provide information about how their condition affects them. Students should be fully involved in discussions about their medical needs and contribute as much as possible to the development of their IHPs. Students are expected to comply with their IHP at all times.

## School Procedures

<p><b>Attendance Register</b></p>	<p>By law, all schools are required to keep an attendance register, and all students must be placed on this register.</p> <p>All students should be on site by 8:30am and in their form rooms for an 8:35am registration on the class charts system. They should not leave the school site before 2:45pm unless they have specific written permission (given by the head of year or pastoral manager in response to a written request by parents/carers).</p> <p>Throughout the day students will be registered on five other occasions, by each subject teacher. Period 4 acts as afternoon registration.</p> <p>Registers will mark (for example) whether a student is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present</li> <li>• Attending an approved off-site educational activity</li> <li>• Absent</li> <li>• Unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances</li> </ul> <p>See DfE attendance codes for the full range of codes. Any student who has not arrived in a lesson will initially be deemed as truanting and a phone call will be made home to inform parents/carers.</p>
<p><b>Unplanned and unauthorised absence</b></p>	<p>Parents/carers must notify the school on the first day of an unplanned absence by 8:30am.</p> <p>Parents/carers can contact school on 0114 237 2723 or email <a href="mailto:attendance@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk">attendance@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk</a> and should continue to call each day that a child remains absent.</p> <p>Unauthorised absences are those that the school do not consider reasonable or for which no “leave” has been given.</p> <p>When a student has more than 8 days absence in any academic year or following an unusual pattern of attendance, parents/carers may be asked to provide additional medical evidence to help explain any illness absence.</p> <p>Additional medical evidence may include a doctor’s appointment text or photocopy of a pharmacy prescription with medical details erased.</p> <p>The purpose of parents/carers providing additional medical evidence is to help school make fair and objective decisions over which absences are genuine and which are non-genuine illness.</p> <p>If the school has requested that the parent/carer provides such additional medical evidence and none is provided, then the absence will be classified as unauthorised.</p> <p>Unauthorised absence can lead to the issuing of fixed penalty notices and /or prosecution.</p> <p>Unauthorised absences include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents/carers keeping children off school unnecessarily.</li> <li>• Truancy (missing lessons – whether the student stays on the school site or not)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absences which are not properly explained.</li> <li>• Students who arrive to school after registers have closed.</li> <li>• Students absent from school for unacceptable reasons such as shopping, looking after other children or because it is their birthday.</li> <li>• Day trips or holidays during term time which are not agreed by school.</li> </ul> <p>Meadowhead school must consider a Penalty Notice Fine when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.</p>
<b>Planned Absence</b>	<p>Illness and emergency medical/dental appointments</p> <p><b>Other authorised circumstances</b> – this refers to the very rare occasions where there is cause for absence due to exceptional circumstances, for example an immediate family bereavement, or for a short period a reduced timetable.</p> <p><b>Religious Holidays</b> – Meadowhead School acknowledges and celebrates the multi-faith nature of our community. We understand on some occasions; religious festivals may fall outside school holiday periods or weekends.</p> <p>We will authorise no more than 2 days for a religious celebration and a maximum of 3 days in any academic year will be granted for religious observance.</p>
<b>Following up absence</b>	<p><b>Following up absence</b></p> <p>Where any student we expect to attend school, does not attend, or stops attending, the school will: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Send a text or call on the day of absence if we have not had any contact from parents/carers.</li> <li>• Follow up on an absence with parents/carers to ascertain the reasons. This will be done on a daily basis, usually by telephone.</li> <li>• If we have been unable to make contact after 2 days, we will conduct a home visit to ascertain the reason for absence.</li> <li>• The school has a duty to ensure that appropriate safeguarding action is taken where necessary. This may include asking SY Police to conduct a safe and well visit if we are unable to make contact via the telephone or a home visit.</li> </ul>
<b>Missing from Education</b>	<p>A child will be reported as missing to the Local Authority (Children Missing from Education) team, if no contact has been made after a period of 10 school days. This may result in the child being removed from the school roll.</p>
<b>Lates</b>	<p>If a student arrives between 8:35am and 9:00 am, they will be greeted at the main reception by a member of the attendance team and asked to sign in using the inventory.</p> <p>If a student arrives after 9:00am, they will also be expected to sign in using the inventory and give their name and form to reception staff. Arrival after 9:00 am is classed as significantly late and it is therefore likely that parent/carers may have been contacted via text message to inform them that their child is absent from</p>

	<p>school.</p> <p>Ensuring a child arrives to school on time is the responsibility of the parent/carer and while they are supposed to be in school a student's safeguarding is a school priority. We therefore reserve the right to contact parents daily if their child is not attending school on time.</p> <p>Any student who is late to school or lessons on 3 or more occasions will receive a next day 30-minute C3 detention.</p> <p>Arrival after 9.30am will mean that the student is given a U code as the morning register will be closed. This is classed as an unauthorised absence for the whole session.</p>
<b>Leaving school early</b>	<p>If a student has to leave school during the school day, they should bring written notification of this from home and present it to their pastoral manager who will issue them with a duplicated 'Out of School' slip completed with date, time and reason. The student should present this to their appropriate subject teacher who will let them leave the lesson at the correct time. The student should then take the slip to the student services reception.</p> <p>Student services will take one copy of the slip, letting the child keep the other copy. This should be handed back in if they return to school during that same day.</p> <p>If a student is ill in school, parents/carers will be contacted by the student services office and then cared for until they can be collected. The student services officer will update the register.</p>
<b>Truancy</b>	<p>Truancy occurs when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a student misses school without permission, <b>or</b></li> <li>• a student registers and then does not attend lessons</li> </ul> <p>If a student is caught truanting, parents/carers will be informed and the student may be placed on an attendance report which will need to be signed by subject teachers each and every lesson.</p> <p>This will be monitored by the year team and parents/carers. They will also serve a C3 detention.</p>
<b>Term time holiday</b>	<p><b>Government legislation does not permit parents/carers to take their child/ren out of school during term time</b> as this can have a detrimental effect on their academic progress.</p> <p>Holidays <b><u>will not be authorised</u></b> in school time. Parents/carers wishing to take their children out of school during term time must complete a <i>Request for Exceptional Term Time Leave</i> form at least 20 school days prior to the absence and give this to the child's pastoral manager. Upon receipt of a <i>Request for Exceptional Term Time Leave</i> a decision will be made, (the Headteacher's decision is final), and parents will be notified only if leave is to be granted. If the request is not agreed, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised and the parent/carer may receive a Holiday Penalty Notice (fine) from the Local Authority.</p> <p>A copy of this form can be downloaded on the Meadowhead School website, or by contacting the year group pastoral manger or attendance team.</p>

<b>Rewards</b>	Students who attend regularly should be rewarded: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• half-termly - certificates for 95% or higher attendance</li><li>• yearly - certificates and a letter of commendation for 100% attendance</li><li>• attendance on rewards trips</li><li>• weekly prize draws for 100% attendance in a school week</li></ul>
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### **Legal Sanctions**

It is an offence for a parent to fail to ensure their child attends school regularly under Section 4 of the Education Act 1996. Parents who fail to ensure their child attends school regularly could face a Penalty Notice Fine and/or a court summons.

We will be working with the Local Authority and pursue legal interventions if a parent/carer fails to engage with school to support their child's attendance.

### **Children Looked After**

Children Looked After will be monitored closely by both the school and the Local Authority team. Students who cause particular concern will be monitored daily by the attendance team and supported to return to school when appropriate.

## Appendix 1: Escalation of Support

Meadowhead School will follow the escalation of support as outlined by the DFE August 2024 - Working together to improve school attendance.

<p><b>Prevention</b> of poor attendance through whole school attendance management.</p>	<p><b>ALL STUDENTS</b> developing good attendance patterns through effective whole school approach to attendance (including leadership, ethos, systems and processes).  <b>STUDENTS AT RISK OF POOR ATTENDANCE.</b>          Using data analysis to support students with increasing levels of absence, arriving at school late or taking leave in term time without permission before it becomes a regular pattern.</p>	<p><b>VOLUNTARY SUPPORT</b>          Helping parents to access services of their own accord and/or a voluntary early help plan to tackle the barriers to attendance. This will follow the Asses, Plan, Do and Review Model.</p> <p>Severely absent students (50% or less). As these children face more barriers to being in school, the child and parents will be supported a multi-agency team.</p>
<p><b>EARLY INTERVENTION</b> to reduce absence before it becomes habitual.</p>	<p><b>STUDENTS WITH POOR ATTENDANCE.</b> Intervening as early as possible and agreeing an action plan for students with high levels of absence and those demonstrating growing disengagement from school.</p>	<p><b>FORMAL SUPPORT (VOLUNTARY)</b>          A formal attendance contract (3-12 months) as agreed by the student, parent, school and local authority. Attendance contracts are voluntary and not legally binding. They are to be used when a voluntary early help plan has not worked or is not deemed appropriate.</p> <p><b>AND/OR FIXED PENALTY NOTICE</b> – A Fixed Penalty Warning Notice and then a Fixed Penalty Fine (£160 per parent) may be issued to each parent for irregular attendance.</p>
<p><b>Targeted reengagement</b> of persistent and severely absent students.</p>	<p><b>PERSISTENTLY AND SEVERELY ABSENT STUDENTS.</b>          Put additional targeted support in place, where necessary working with partners, and agree a joint approach with the local authority for all severely absent students.          Effective school attendance improvement and management.</p>	<p><b>FORMAL SUPPORT with the local authority.</b>          Progressing to a legally binding Education Supervision Order in the Family Court if there is non-engagement and deemed necessary.          ↓  <b>STATUTORY SOCIAL CARE INVOLVEMENT</b>          Where there are safeguarding concerns and an Education Supervision Order is not appropriate or has not been successful the case should be considered for S.17 or S.47 statutory social care involvement.</p>

**Sheffield City Council – Mapping support plan.**

<b>Child's name:</b>	<b>Date of Birth:</b>	<b>Class/Year group:</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>SEN code:</b>	<b>SSG:</b>
<b>One page support plan/MyPlan/EHCP date last Reviewed:</b>	<b>Date of plan:</b>	<b>Review date:</b>
<b>Present:</b>		

Thank you for attending the meeting at school today to discuss the attendance of the above-named pupil.

Outlined below are the actions agreed at the meeting including time scales:

<b>Services Involved:</b>		
<b>What are we worried about</b>	<b>What is going well</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
<b>Education</b>		
<b>Health</b>		
<b>Care</b>		
<b>Additional Information:</b>		

Other points outlined at the meeting were:

- A parent commits an offence if they fail to ensure that their child, who is a registered pupil at a school, fails to attend regularly.
- School will not authorise any further absence unless medical evidence is provided to support the absence, or the local authority advises us to do so. In the case of medical appointments, you will need to show some proof of appointment for this to be recorded.
- The attendance will be closely monitored by the school and local authority and reviewed accordingly. If there is no significant improvement in your child/ren's attendance, you may be at risk of receiving a fixed penalty notice and/or prosecution.

I confirm that I understand the points agreed as outlined above.

Signature of Parent(s):

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Signature of School:

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## 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 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

### 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 have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.

### 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'.

