



BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Belong Believe Achieve

Headteacher: Mrs C Pocock

West Street, Banwell, North Somerset BS29 6DB

Telephone: 01934 822498

Email: office@banwell.extendlearning.org

Web: www.banwellprimary.co.uk



10 July 2024

Dear parent/carer

I am writing to tell you about the national changes that will come into effect from August 19th 2024 relating to requests for holidays during term time. In line with legislation, the government statutory guidance does not allow us to authorise holidays in term time.

Pupil term time holiday requests will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances (listed in the guidance). Parents making an exceptional circumstances holiday request will be required to provide evidence to support their request.

The points below detail the changes that will take place from 19th August 2024 and how this impacts our response to requests for term time holidays.

In brief:

1. Fines will be £160 per parent/carer per child for a first-time request, if paid within 21 days the fine is reduced to £80 per parent/carer per child.
2. If a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged £160 per parent per child, with no discount
3. Further occurrences within the three-year period will result in other actions that may result in prosecution, where a Parenting Order can be requested by the school
4. Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, the threshold at which a fine must be considered is 10 sessions (5 days) in a 10-week rolling period.
5. Local Authorities will have a duty to check with other Local Authorities if any fines have previously been issued in the preceding 3 years- meaning that even if families move Local Authority areas, any previously issued fines by another Local Authority can count towards the 2 Penalty Notice limit per parent per child in any 3-year period.

Should you have any questions or queries regarding this matter please contact the school.

[Fines for parents for taking children out of school: What you need to know – The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

Kind Regards

Headteacher

First term time holiday = £80 fine per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days or £160 per parent/child per child if paid after this.

Second Term time holiday = £160 per parent/carer per child

Third Term time holiday = prosecution in the magistrates court under sec 4441 of the Education Act. A fine of up to £2,500 per parent/carer per child or a Parenting Order.

Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the below changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines that are accrued after 19th August 2024.

Education Penalty Notices are issued to the parents of statutory school age children.

Per parent, per child

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent from school without prior approval by the school.

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

5 days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more days which have not been authorised by the school.

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.

<p>First Offence</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Second Offence (within 3 years)</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.</p>

