



RRE/SAP

3rd September 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you have had a lovely summer and are looking forward to the start of a new school year. We can't wait to welcome back our children on their first day. Please see [here](#) for our the information relating to our new Year 7 students and [here](#) for the information for Year 8-11 about the start back to school.

I wanted to contact you ahead of our return to school because of the changes the Department for Education have made to the guidance on school attendance, specifically around term time holidays and irregular attendance of school. These changes could have serious consequences for families and so we wanted to share them with you to ensure that you are fully aware. The full guidance can be found here: [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\) \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/121441/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance-19-august-2024.pdf)

What are these national changes?

1. There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions of absence for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.
2. The new rules mean you will no longer be able to take your child out of school for one week's holiday without a penalty notice being issued.
3. There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued. This fine is per parent and per child.
4. If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.

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OasisWintringham

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5. If a parent then meets the criteria above for a third time (number 1.) in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them.

This guidance came into effect from 19th August and we will have to adhere to it from our return in September. It relates to unauthorised absence.

I have enclosed the infographic to exemplify the implications of the new guidance for your reference.

We will continue to work together to support you in ensuring your child attends the Academy as regularly as possible so that they can benefit from all the opportunities we can offer them. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Revell".

Ms R Revell
Principal