

# PENALTY NOTICE CHANGES

There are *significant* changes to penalty notices for unauthorised absences during term time, effective from 19th August 2024. It is up to school to decide whether absences are authorised or not – holidays will not be authorised.

## What you need to know:

- 1 New Penalty Rates: £160 per parent per child, £80 if paid within 21 days.
- 2 Second offence within 3 years: £160 with no discount.
- 3 Penalty after 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in a rolling 10-school week period. This includes late arrivals after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- 4 Maximum 2 penalties in 3 years per child. Further offences may lead to prosecution.

## PLEASE NOTE...

If a pupil arrives late **after** the register has closed, the school's attendance register must be amended to record them as absent using code 'U'.

This means that the child will be marked as having an unauthorised absence, unless there is a reason as set out in the authorised absences section of the guidance.

# ATTENDANCE UPDATES

WORKING TOGETHER  
TO IMPROVE SCHOOL  
ATTENDANCE

Did you know that in England in 2023 only 36% of students whose attendance was 90% or lower achieved a grade 4 or above in maths and English GCSE. For those who attended regularly, this figure was 84%.



STAMFORD  
PARK TRUST

## CONTACT US

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New  
Statutory  
Government  
Guidelines



 Longdendale  
HIGH SCHOOL

 STAMFORD  
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# REGULAR ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance is **crucial** for your child's educational progress. Being present allows children to form lasting friendships, develop essential interpersonal skills and contributes to better mental health and overall wellbeing.

## AUTHORISED ABSENCES

Schools must only grant leaves of absence for specific circumstances set out in the 2024 attendance regulations.

### The permitted circumstances are:

- ✓ Taking part in a regulated performance or employment abroad
- ✓ Attending an interview
- ✓ Study leave
- ✓ A temporary, time-limited part-time timetable
- ✓ Exceptional circumstances
- ✗ Unfortunately a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure or recreation would **not** constitute an exceptional circumstance.

## ACADEMIC, SOCIAL & WELLBEING BENEFITS OF ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY...



**Better Learning:** Regular attendance helps children keep up with lessons and understand material.



**Steady Progress:** Attending school every day means students don't fall behind and can stay on track.



**Higher Grades:** Being in school regularly gives children more chances to improve their marks.



**Increased Participation:** Regular attendance helps children get involved in lessons and extracurricular activities.



**Extra Support:** Children who attend regularly have better access to teachers and extra help when needed.



**Improved Social Skills:** Being in school helps children make friends and learn how to work with others.



**Sense of Belonging:** Attending regularly helps children feel part of the school community.



**Teamwork:** Working with classmates in lessons and extracurricular activities builds teamwork skills.



**Emotional Stability:** Routine helps children feel secure and less anxious.



**Good Habits:** Regular attendance builds important life skills like time management and responsibility.

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

Following the new government statutory guidance around attendance, we want to reiterate the support that is available to our young people and their families.

At Stamford Park Trust, we are committed to fostering a supportive and nurturing environment in all our academies that prioritises the mental health and wellbeing of every student.

There are several external agencies who can provide support for young people:

**kooth**

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online platform offering mental health support and counselling to young people.

SCAN HERE →



Helps schools understand and identify mental health problems and gives students therapeutic and emotional support.

SCAN HERE →



**YOUNGMINDS**

A national charity committed to promoting and improving the mental health of all young people. Includes a parents' information service.

SCAN HERE →



**SafeSpot**

SafeSpot is an app that promotes positive mental wellbeing and has been designed to help children and young people improve their coping skills.

SCAN HERE →

