



Aston Hall  
Junior & Infant School

**ASTON HALL JUNIOR & INFANT SCHOOL**

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**HEADTEACHER:** Mr S Holmes

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Updates to Attendance Policy and new National Framework for Fixed Penalty Notices

Dear parent/carer,

At Aston Hall, we pride ourselves on promoting strong attendance and punctuality. We know evidence shows a direct link between the outcomes of pupils in school and their attendance. Last year, our school attendance for the year was 95.6%, significantly above the national average of 94.5%. The % of pupils who were deemed persistent absentees (attendance below 90% and missing one day of school a fortnight) was just 7.4%, significantly below the national average of 15.2%.

We want to thank you as parents/carers within our school community for engaging so well and promoting positive attendance at school with your children. Nationally, attendance in schools (particularly secondary schools) is still of significant concern for the Government.

From 19th August 2024, the Government have introduced a new National Framework for Penalty Notices. Under the National Framework all schools will be required to consider a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons within 10 school weeks.

In the majority of cases, schools and the Council will try and provide support to help families improve children's attendance first, but if this isn't effective, **or if the absence is for an unauthorised term time holiday**, parents may receive an FPN. FPN's are used as an alternative to prosecution.

The National Framework for Penalty Notices sets out that a **maximum of 2 FPN's per child, per parent can be issued within a rolling 3-year period**. If the national threshold is met for a third time (or subsequent times) within 3 years, another tool will be used.

First FPN in a 3-year period: £160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days. Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days

Second FPN in a 3-year period: £160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days

Third occasion in a 3-year period: A FPN will not be issued, and the Council will consider alternative enforcement such as a court summons.

You can read more information on the government changes here: <https://tinyurl.com/3vhxjsmf>

The updated Rotherham Fixed Penalty Notice Code of Conduct can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/4h75hhr39>.

If you have submitted a leave of absence request form since 19th August 2024, there is a delay in us providing our usual letters to you as they are all being updated (including our Attendance policy) in-line with the updated National Framework. Any questions queries, please don't hesitate to ask.

Thank you,

Mr Scott Holmes  
Headteacher

