

## Penalty Notices

The Education (Penalty notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 increased the current amounts of penalty notices payable by parents for 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012.

These will apply to any parent who fails to ensure regular attendance of their child of compulsory school age (5-16) who is registered at a state school (or fails to ensure that their excluded child is not found in a public place during school hours without justifiable reason).

Penalty Notices are per parent, per child as appropriate, so if there are 2 parents both will need to pay the fine for each child.

The amounts stated on the penalty notices increased from Sept 2012 from £ 50 to £60 and from £100 to £120.

Amendments have been made to the 2007 Regulations in the Education (Penalty Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013. Parents must, from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013, pay £60 **within 21 days** or £120 **within 28 days**.

Unpaid Penalty Notices will be referred back to the local authority who will investigate legal proceedings for the original offence of failing to ensure the child's regular school attendance under section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996.

Penalty Notices are an alternative to prosecution for failing to ensure a child's regular attendance and will only be used once per pupil in an academic year before prosecution takes place.