



September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Government has updated the regulations on school attendance. Below are the new amendments that have come into force from the 1st September 2013. It is important that you read the amendments as they may affect you and your family.

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 – Term-time holiday.

Amendments to the 2006 regulations remove references to family holidays and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time.

This means that the Government and the Department for Education are not allowing any holidays during term time and have told Headteachers that they DO NOT have the authority to authorise any holiday leave from 1st September 2013 regardless of the length of the holiday or the circumstances. Ravensbury shares the government's determination to raise levels of pupil attendance and achievement in order to ensure the best possible start in life for our children. **If a parent decides to take their child out of school without permission, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised and you will be referred for a penalty notice.**

Penalty Notice

Penalty notices issued for unauthorised absences on or after 1st September 2013 incur a fine of £120 to be paid within 28 days, which is reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days of the notice being served.

There is no right of appeal by parents against a penalty notice. If the penalty notice is not paid in full by the end of the 28 day period the local authority must decide either to prosecute for the original offence to which the notice applies or withdraw the notice.

Under the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 an authorised officer of the City Council has the power to issue each parent/carer with a Penalty Notice for each of their children who fails to attend regularly. A Penalty Notice is an early deterrent which is intended to prevent more extended periods of unauthorised absence developing.

The school works really hard throughout the year to promote good attendance and punctuality with the children. We would really appreciate your support in this matter.

Mrs Hughes
Headteacher

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"Ravensbury Community School is committed to the protection and safety of all its stakeholders"

