



SKEGNESS JUNIOR ACADEMY

Principal: Mr D Price

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Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to pass onto you some important, new information that you need to be aware of relating to your child's attendance at school:

Recently, 06/04/17, The Supreme Court met and formulated a ruling that clearly stipulates; parents have a duty in law to ensure the regular attendance of their child at school. To clarify this meaning; 'regular' attendance means attendance at school on the days declared by the school as term time.

As a result, a request for leave of absence from school will not be granted for the purpose of a holiday unless deemed to be 'exceptional circumstances'. If you wish to seek approval for any request of absence for your child(ren) from School, then you must apply in writing to the Principal at least four weeks in advance of the absence. You should only remove your child(ren) if the absence has been authorised, and notified to you in writing by the School. Any exceptional circumstances must be clearly set out in the written request to the Principal who will consider each case upon its merits.

If you then choose to take your child out of school during term time and it is not deemed to be exceptional circumstances and/or has not been approved by the school, then this will be coded as unauthorised absence and a Fixed Penalty Notice fine will be issued for the period of absence. Failure to pay the Fixed Penalty may result in further legal action being taken against you. A Fixed Penalty Notice is a strategy used by all schools to address the unacceptable levels of attendance of children at their school under the following legislation:

Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 places upon parents a duty to ensure their child receives suitable efficient full time education either by regular attendance at school or education otherwise. Where a child is a registered pupil at a school and the parent fails to ensure that child's regular attendance at school, the parent is liable to be prosecuted for a criminal offence under Section 444 (1)(a) of the Education Act. In cases where this duty is not being fulfilled, Section 444B of the same Act empowers the Local Authority to issue a Fixed Penalty of either £60.00 or £120.00.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

Mr D Price
Principal

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