

Harpurhey Alternative Provision School

979-981 Rochdale Road, Manchester M9 8AE

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Attendance

Manchester's Education Welfare Service has been issuing Penalty Notice Fines for unauthorised absences on behalf of schools since the introduction of the fines in 2003 under Section 23 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act, 2003.

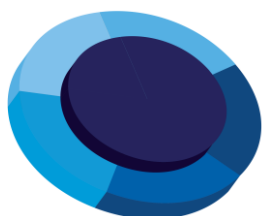
You might be aware that Penalty Notices for leave in term time were temporarily suspended until a decision was made by the Supreme Court. During this suspension, the Education Welfare Service were only able to refer families for a fine if the leave exceeded 10 school days, as opposed to 5.

The Supreme Court has now overturned the decision made by the High Court, so the issuing of fines for leave in term time has now been reinstated.

This means that in line with our [Attendance Policy](#) and guidance issued by the Department for Education, all families who take unauthorised leave **exceeding** five school days are likely to be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice by the Education Welfare Service. It is our duty at HAPS to inform commissioning schools of any breaches to the legislation and we will provide whatever documentary support may be needed in supporting schools to take the step of issuing a Penalty Notice. The best course of action is always to discuss, in an open way, what best meets the needs of the young person.

Further information regarding Unauthorised Leave and other attendance matters can be found in our [Attendance Policy](#).

The following is an extract from the policy, specifically relating to this recent update:



Operated by: Manchester Collegiate Education Trust

Company number :07744158

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