

# Unauthorised absences



Unauthorised absences are when your child misses school without permission. Examples include term time holidays, days off for birthdays, bad weather (when the school is open) and feeling tired.

1

You will be sent a warning letter. If your child misses 10 or more sessions in a 10-week period you will be fined. This is the equivalent of five days, as a morning and afternoon count as two sessions.

2

Fines are issued by the local council. Each parent will be fined £80, or £160 if you don't pay within 21 days.

3

Parents can get up to two fines for the same child in a three-year period. If you get a second fine, it will be £160 and if you don't pay in 28 days you may be taken to court.

4

If your child is off school three or more times within three years you may be taken to court. If you're prosecuted and attend court, you could get a criminal record and a fine of up to £2,500.