

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

### Changes to the Fixed Penalty Notice Scheme

With effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 the Government are changing the fines that can be imposed on parents through the fixed penalty notice scheme for the following:

1. Unauthorised absence from school
2. When a child is excluded from school but seen in a public place
3. When a holiday is taken in term time and the absence has not been authorised by the school
4. When children are identified out of school on a truancy sweep by the police or authorised officers

The fines are changing as follows:

Payment within 28 days is increasing from £50.00 to £60.00 if the fine is not paid then from day 29 the fine then doubles to a new rate of £120. There is no right of appeal, if the fine cannot be paid in instalments and if the fine is not paid within 42 days the matter may go before the courts.

If you commit an offence and the payment period falls into September these new rates will apply.

Do not leave yourself at risk of a penalty fine talk to the school today if you are having difficulties.