Kingsbury School

NEWSLETTER

Autumn term, Issue 1
December 2025

ENTHUSE I ASPIRE I ACHIEVE

A NOTE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Thank you for reading our new termly newsletter. We hope this provides families with clearer, more focused updates and a stronger sense of the many developments taking place across our school. As always, we welcome your feedback.

As we reach the end of term, I would like to thank parents and carers for your continued support. Working in partnership is vital to the success of our students, and your encouragement, communication and commitment to the school are genuinely appreciated.

I am also pleased to share that the refurbishment of our leisure centre is now complete. The upgraded facilities represent a significant investment in our school community, and we would like to invite parents and carers to come and view the facilities on Monday 5th January 2026 at 4:30pm. We look forward to welcoming you and showcasing the improvements. If you would like to attend, please arrive to the school reception at 4:30pm.

Attendance remains a key priority for us, and I would like to thank families for their ongoing support in this area. Good attendance is fundamental to academic success, personal development and wellbeing. Students who attend regularly are far more likely to achieve their potential, both academically and socially. Our ambition is for the school to achieve above-average attendance, with a target of 96%, and we appreciate the role parents and carers play in helping us move towards this goal.

Finally, I would like to wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope the holiday period provides an opportunity to rest, spend time together and return refreshed for the new term.

M Clarke, Headteacher



COMING SOON:

- **Training day**
  Monday 5th January 2026
- **Leisure Centre Visit**
  Monday 5th January 2026 at 4:30pm
- **Year 7 Parent/Carer and Subject Teacher Evening**
  Thursday 15th January (4:00pm—7:00pm)
- **Open Morning** (for current parents/carers)
  Wednesday 21st January (9:00am)
- **Training Day**
  Friday 13th February 2026
- **Year 11 Parent/Carer and Subject Teacher Evening**
  Thursday 26th February



Key Dates for your Diary

DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY
Thursday 15th January 2026 (4:00-7:00pm)	Year 7 Parent/Carer and Subject Teacher Evening
Wednesday 21st January 2026 (9:00-10:00am)	Open Morning for current parents/carers
Thursday 22nd January 2026	Year 7 SEND Coffee Afternoon
Thursday 22nd January 2026	HPV Vaccinations (Year 8)
Thursday 26th February 2026 (4:00-7:00pm)	Year 11 Parent/Carer and Subject Teacher Evening
Thursday 5th March 2026	Year 11 SEND Coffee Afternoon
Monday 16th March 2026	Year 11 Photographs
Friday 27th March 2026	Year 11 Intervention Day (only Year 11 attend school)
Thursday 16th April 2026 (4:00-7:00pm)	Year 10 Parent/Carer and Subject Teacher Evening
Thursday 23rd April 2026	Year 10 SEND Coffee Afternoon
Thursday 7th May 2026 (4:00-7:00pm)	Year 9 Parent/Carer and Subject Teacher Evening
Thursday 14th May 2026	Year 9 SEND Coffee Afternoon
Thursday 21st May 2026 (5:00-6:30pm)	Year 9 Curriculum/Options Evening
Week beginning 16th June 2026	Year 10 Trial Examinations
Tuesday 16th June 2026 (9:00-10:00am)	Open Morning for current parents/carers
Week beginning 29th June 2026	Year 7-9 End of Year Examinations
Tuesday 7th July 2026 (5:30-6:30pm)	Year 6 Intake Evening (parents/carers)
Wednesday 8th July 2026	Year 6 Induction Day (Year 6 Students)
Thursday 9th July 2026 (6:00-7:00pm)	Special Awards Evening
Week beginning 13th July 2026	Year 10 Work Experience Week

ME Time News

Students have had an aeroplane design session where they made a runway and had a flight competition. This combined science and art with beautiful designs and learning about aerodynamics.



YEAR 9 LOUDMOUTH VISIT

Year 9 recently benefitted from a Loudmouth theatre in Education production of **'safe and sound'**. The play highlighted the topic of **healthy** and **respectful relationships**. After watching the powerful performance, the actor characters were in the 'hot seat' to answer questions from Year 9 students which proved to be very insightful. Loudmouth were very complimentary about students' conduct and engagement.







CHRISTMAS FOOD BANK

Our Christmas Food Bank collection went well and was gratefully received by Tamworth Food Bank to **help our community.** We would like to extend our thanks to all of those who helped make this possible!



LINES OF COMMUNICATION

We aim to reply to parents **within 48 hours**

If you do not receive a reply within this timeframe, please escalate to the Headteachers PA, Miss Biddle at

felicity.biddle@castlephoenixtrust.co.uk

PASTORAL SUPPORT

Head of Upper School (Years 9/10/11)
Miss M McDonnell

Head of Lower School (Years 7/8)
Ms L Franks

Attendance Officer
Mrs D Smith

Inclusion /SENDCo
Mrs K Moores

Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs H Hurley

FACULTY LEADERS

English
Mrs R McKeown

Maths
Mr D Patrick

Humanities
Miss K Taylor

Science
Mr J Crane

Performing Arts & Sport
Mrs R Carey

Technology
Mrs C Plenty

Technology
Mrs C Plenty

French
Miss K Davie

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Headteacher
Mr M Clarke

Deputy Headteacher
Mrs M Carrick

Assistant Headteacher
Mr C Collis

Assistant Headteacher
Mrs H Hurley

Assistant Headteacher
Mrs L Newman

LINES OF COMMUNICATION

Year 11

Head of Upper School
Miss M McDonnell

Year Leader
Mrs V Bancroft

Year 10

Head of Upper School
Miss M McDonnell

Year Leader
Mrs M Beirne
Mrs B Dagnall

Year 9

Head of Lower School
Ms L Franks

Year Leader
Mrs E Job

Year 8

Head of Lower School
Ms L Franks

Year Leader
Miss L Wilson

Year 7

Head of Lower School
Ms L Franks

Year Leader
Ms G Marsh

We like to celebrate the achievements of our students! If you have any news of outside of school achievements, please let us know so that we can celebrate via our website and newsletter.

Please send any news items/photographs to admin4111@kingsburyschool.Info



STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Head Students
Kaitlyn Irvine
Katie Kitley

Deputy Head Students
Katie Blackwell Joiner
Kacey Cooke
Peyton Newberry

Assistant Head Students
Hollie Oomer
Millie Shorrock
Courtney Freestone Deeming
Summer Williams
Morgan Carlin



OUR NEW FORM REPS!

Congratulations to our new form reps who will form our Student Council. They are newly elected and have already started to represent their form groups by feeding back ideas about the food in the canteen. Great work!

Year 7
7PLE— Charley Joiner
7DUT—Alyssa Howell
7PAR— Sebastian Zeman
7WAE—Harriet Madders
7YOU—Cody Bryan

Year 8
8MAC—Isla Walker
8DAY— Abigail Birch
8TYL—Henry Evans
8JUD—Ginnie Knight
8TAY—Daria Mallinson Jones & Lily Roberts
MOT—Jayden Kundak



Year 9
9FOS—Bo Firth
9KNI—Noah Taylor
9YNG—Jake Johnson
9MSN—Josiah Allen
9BRY— Phidelis Boafo

Year 10
10JON—Eve Aucott
10CRN—Isla Miles
10CAE—Jack Leese
10AND— Evan Howell
10HAN—Libby-Jade Turner

Year 11
11CAR—Diyal Nadunge
11CAY—Temilolu Adelayi
11DAI– Emilija Sinkunaite
11GUI—Rohan Arnell
11JHN– Poppy Chambers

Work Experience - Year 10

All students in Year 10 are going to be on Work Experience from **Monday 13th – Friday 17th July 2026.** During this time there will be no timetabled classes for Year 10; students will be at their work placements. Any student who does not attend Work Experience will be required to attend school.

Work Experience gives students the chance to learn about what type of job they might enjoy, and develop their CV. It can be one of the most transformational experiences young people have during their education.

Students should source their own work experience placements. Please begin looking early, as there are other local schools who will be also looking for placements in our area at the same time.



We are using Unifrog (www.unifrog.org) to manage the work experience programme for example collecting information from the employer about their Risk Assessment and Health & Safety policy, as well as getting agreement from yourselves for the placement to go ahead.

More information about Unifrog will be provided by tutor groups and guidance will be given during assembly.



unifrog

Next Steps

Any questions, please contact Miss Wellstead in the office on admin4111@kingsburyschool.info, or Mrs Beirne, Year 10 Year Leader.

Please read the placement guides on Unifrog as they are really helpful, and then start contacting possible hosts for the placement as soon as you can!



Careers & Employability

Snow Closure Procedure

In the event of school closure due to snow, parents will be notified as early as possible via the school website, Facebook and Arbor. Parents can also subscribe to the free Warwickshire School closures text service by visiting **www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures**

Uniform

Please can parents ensure that their child is wearing the correct uniform at school. We are aware of the changeable weather; however, it is imperative that students attend school in the correct attire. For further uniform guidance please see our school website for full details.

REMINDER!

Tutor sessions start at 8:35am. Please ensure that your child is at school for 8:30am.



Design and Technology

Celebrating Creativity and Innovation at Kingsbury!

This term, our **KS3 Design and Technology students** have truly raised the bar! **The Design and Technology Faculty** has undergone an exciting revamp of work, blending **traditional craftsmanship** with **cutting-edge CAD/CAM technology**.

Students have loved the opportunity to combine hands-on skills with digital design tools, and the results speak for themselves!

Year 7 have been busy creating **giant paperclips/bookmarks** along with packaging and promotional materials—bringing creativity and branding together in style!





Year 9 have wowed us with their professional looking **sweet dispensers**, showcasing research, design and manufacturing skills at their best. **Well done year 9 designers**!



We are so proud of the innovation, effort and enthusiasm shown by all our young designers. **Kingsbury Design and Technology is shaping the future of product design—one brilliant idea at a time!**

TEXTILES

Year 7 Textile designers have been busy this term, **researching, designing and making** novelty cushion covers. They have successfully learned to use the **sewing machines, a range of decorative techniques and finishing techniques**.

The outcomes are **amazing** and showcase their **creativity and skill**. Well done Year 7 Textile Designers!





Kingsbury School Digital Creativity Programme

We are excited to introduce our new **Digital Creativity Programme** for Year 7 students—a year-long initiative designed to prepare your child for the future of learning and work.

Using Apple apps and devices, students will develop essential digital skills while making their learning more creative and personalised. From creating stunning infographics in **Keynote** to producing educational videos in **iMovie**, this programme builds confidence, collaboration, and problem-solving skills that will benefit your child throughout their education and beyond.

Why it matters:

- Prepares students for a technology-driven world
- Makes learning interactive and enjoyable
- Encourages independence and creativity

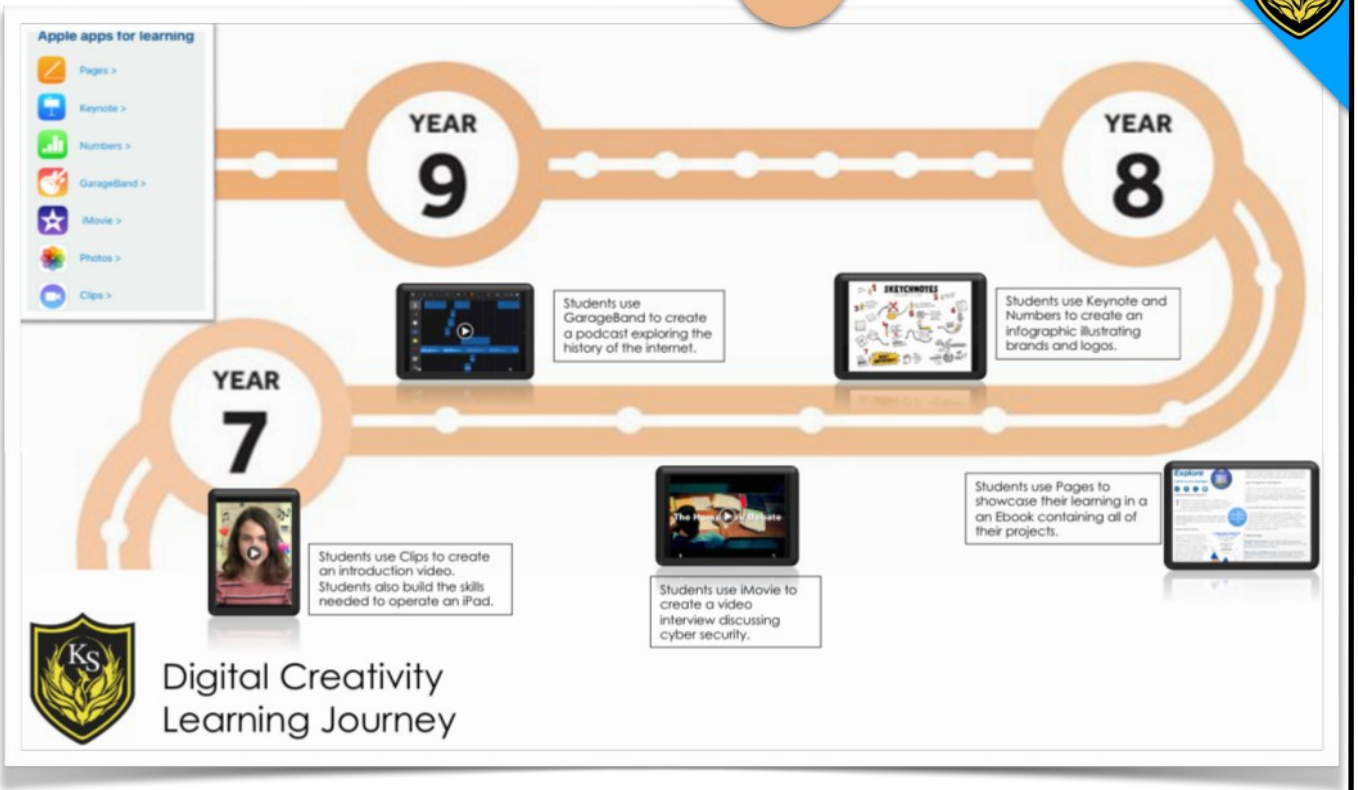
What will students learn?

- **Apple App Mastery**: Pages, Keynote, iMovie, and more
- **Creative Communication**: Present ideas in engaging, professional ways
- **Collaboration Skills**: Work effectively with peers using digital tools
- **Personalised Learning**: Tailor schoolwork to individual strengths and interests
- **Future-Ready Skills**: Problem-solving, adaptability, and confidence with technology



At Kingsbury School, we believe technology should empower students. This programme ensures every child is ready for tomorrow—while enjoying a dynamic learning experience today.

Digital Creativity Learning Journey



With its powerful tools and dazzling effects, Keynote makes it easy to create stunning and memorable presentations and comes included with most Apple devices. Use Apple Pencil on your iPad to create diagrams or illustrations that bring your slides to life.

Care and Guidance

Key messages:

- If your child requires a toilet pass, please provide medical evidence so that we can issue one.
- Please ensure equipment is brought to school every day.
- Tutor time begins at 8:35am. Please ensure your child is in school by 8:30 am so that they will be on time.
- If you require any additional parental support, please contact the pastoral team, who will be happy to help.
- **Mobile Phones:** In the interests of courtesy and our children's safety, we politely request that mobile phones are not used on the school site.

Have we got your up-to-date contact details?

Please can you ensure that we have two contact numbers for your child.

Please contact the school office to provide us with new details.

Safeguarding

We take SAFEGUARDING seriously. If you are concerned about a student, please contact Mrs Helen Hurley on 01827 872316 or helen.hurley@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

Internet Safety

The Internet is a wonderful tool, but are you using it safely?

Please advise your children not to give out any personal information related to their family, friends or themselves like full names, addresses, telephone or mobile numbers, or those of their parents.

Student Shout Out



Year 9 student, Bo Firth, has been given a role in the **Wolverhampton Grand Theatre's panto** this year, which is **fantastic!**

Well done Bo, what an incredible opportunity.









REPORTING AN ABSENCE

Please use the following means of communication to advise of a students absence.

T: 01827 872316

E: kng-absence@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

SMS: 01827 230501

Please notify us of an absence by 8.30am on each day of absence.

PE AND SPORT





Kye Turner – Year 8

Kye Turner has just been crowned 2nd in Junior UK Formula TKM for 2025. Quote from Kye "I stepped up to Juniors this year after winning GX-UK Cadets in 2024. I have been racing drivers up to four years older than me and with more experience. I thought I'd be mid-pack by the end of the season, but I was proud to take regular podiums throughout the year while racing at tracks across the country. My highlight was winning at Dunkeswell in September, unbelievable atmosphere with the grand-stand cheering me on which I will never forget!

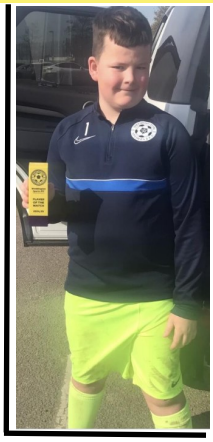
Cole Williams – Year 7

Cole is goalkeeper for Wedding-ton sports football team and has received man of the match twice!

Darcie Head – Year 10

Darcie had a trial with Derby County against 50 girls back in September and made the ETC programme as part of 14 girls











Josh Cowell – Year 8

Josh Cowell swims for Tamworth Amateur Swimming Club. He recently completed a spon-sored swim where he swam 3000m and he completed in two gala events last year in which he swam 5 races and achieved 3 bronze medals in Freestyle Championship 100m, Freestyle 50m and Individual Meledy Championship 100m.

He will be competing again in the gala events,



Macauley McCluskey - Year 9

Macauley has played for County for the last 2 years and is captain of the school football team!



Marshall Gardiner – Year 8

Plays striker for Atherstone Rangers Bar-barians. Marshall scored 4 goals last match and got Player of the match!





Ethan Chandler—Year 10



Jacob Daniel Eley—Year 7

Previous to Jacob's accident, (march 2025 he was involved in a RTA, he underwent emergency brain surgery and has made a full recovery), he was a boxer who successfully won boxing matches at origin boxing club.



CORE PURPOSE

Enthuse I Aspire I Achieve

OUR VISION

- Ensuring that our students feel **safe**, **valued**, **cared for** and **happy**.
- Fostering **strong** and **positive relationships** by instilling a culture of **respect** and **kindness**.
- Promoting **equality** and **diversity** and preparing our students for life in modern Britain by supporting British values.
- Creating **aspirational** and **ambitious** learners who are creative thinkers and embrace challenge.
- Developing **resilient** and **independent learners** who are prepared for life and learning after school.
- Committed to the pursuit of excellence, delivering **achievement for all** and celebrating individual successes through an ethos of **encouragement** and **praise**.
- Inspiring **confident** and **accomplished readers** and **communicators** through a **reading rich environment**.
- Extending the boundaries of learning by providing a rich, relevant, **engaging** and **innovative curriculum** that is **accessible to all**.
- Through **effective communication**, work in partnership with parents and carers to provide timely and effective support, care and guidance for all of our students.

Kingsbury School

Tamworth Road
Kingsbury
Tamworth
B79 2LF

Phone: 01827 872316
Fax: 01827 873714

We're on the web!
www.kingsburyschool.co.uk

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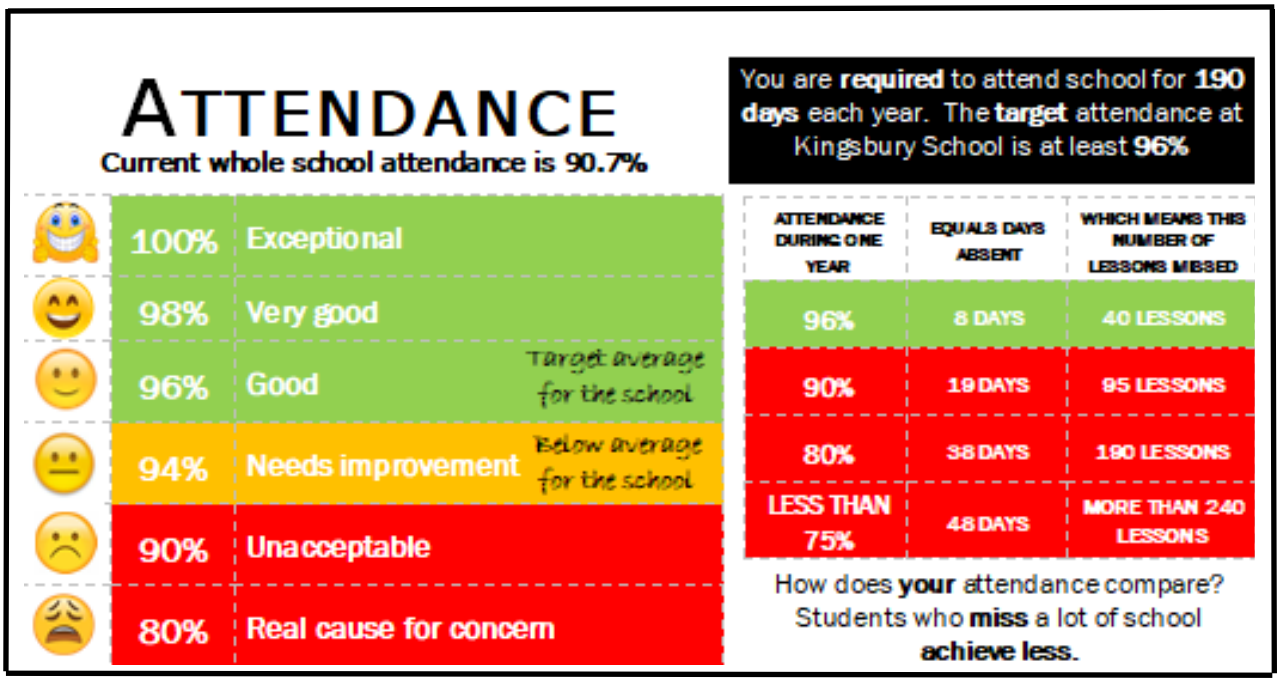
Why not follow us on Facebook?

www.facebook.com/Kingsbury-School

Term Dates and Holidays

Term Dates	Training days (School closed to students)
Autumn Term 1	**Monday 1st September 2025** **Friday 24th October 2025** **Friday 5th December 2025**
Tuesday 2nd September 2025 to Thursday 23rd October 2025	
Autumn Term 2	
Monday 3rd November 2025 to Friday 19th December 2025 at 12:05pm	
Spring Term 1	**Monday 5th January 2026** **Friday 13th February 2026**
Tuesday 6th January 2026 to Thursday 12th February 2026	
Spring Term 2	
Monday 23rd February 2026 to Friday 27th March 2026 **(NOTE:** Only Year 11 attend on Friday 27th March for their Intervention Day)	
Summer Term 1	**Monday 13th April 2026** **Friday 26th June 2026**
Tuesday 14th April 2026 to Friday 22nd May 2026 (Bank Holiday Monday: 4th May 2026)	
Summer Term 2	
Monday 1st June 2026 to Friday 17th July 2026 at 12:05pm	

Attendance



To comply with the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 and Data Protection expectations, it is vitally important that **Kingsbury School** keeps accurate and up to date information relating to every pupil on roll.
The information we are required to record includes:

- Pupil's full legal name (and if appropriate, their preferred name).
- The name, address and contact details of every person known to the school/academy who is a parent* to the pupil with whom the pupil normally resides (this is the address that has been used to register with their GP).
- The name, address and contact details of any additional parent*.
- Any other emergency contact details.

In order to gather this information, every year we send out data collection forms. Parents are asked to complete the form with as much information as possible and then return to the school, signed and dated. We would ask that even where there are no amendments to the data collection sheet, parents return the form, signed and dated.
Kingsbury School requests that if you change your contact number, move home or there are any other circumstances which may impact your child, the school is notified as a priority.
N.B. *The Education Act 1996 defines a 'parent' as a). any natural parent, whether married or not, b). any parent who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility as defined in the Children Act (1989) for a child or young person c). any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to <u>each parent of each absent child</u>, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means <u>each</u> parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
    - <u>First Leave of Absence offence:</u> The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
    - <u>Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice):</u> The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period <u>(from the date of issue of the first penalty notice):</u> A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.