

Swansea Local Authority

Statement for School Websites

Penalty Notices for school absences

The Education (Penalty Notices) (Wales) Regulations 2013 introduced fixed notice penalties for regular non-attendance at school.

The Welsh Government has required all local authorities to draw up and implement their own Local Codes of Conduct to ensure consistency in the issuing of penalty notices. The code was implemented in Swansea in January, 2015.

The Welsh Government states that penalty notices are one option among a number of different interventions available to promote better school attendance. The introduction of these regulations is one part of the Welsh Government strategy to support improved school attendance across Wales.

The introduction of these regulations mean that parents may now be fined for their child(ren)'s regular non-attendance at school.

The local code of conduct, which explains how penalty notices will operate, is available on the Swansea Council website

<http://www.swansea.gov.uk/educationpenalty>

On the website the local authority has also provided answers to some frequently asked questions. Parents/carers have received explanatory letters and information leaflets from their child's school in January, 2015.

If any parent has concerns about their child/s attendance, then please speak to staff in school for advice and support.