



The Queen Elizabeth
Academy



TQEA Newsletter: Friday 30th January 2026

Issue 15



The Queen Elizabeth Academy

“We Can and We Will”



Head of Academy Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

This week we see January draw to an end. January can be frequently portrayed very negatively within the media and in general – broken New Year resolutions; extreme weather; dark mornings and evenings; Blue Monday – and to an extent some of these are true. However, January is so much more than this and there are so many wonderful things to enjoy and celebrate.

This January we celebrated our students returning to the Academy with them coming together as a tutor group and enjoying belonging to our community. We have seen an improvement in our attendance with more children attending school on a regular basis. We

have re-launched our XTRA programme to provide further experiences outside of the classroom, welcomed Year 9 Parents and Carers into the academy for Progress Evening and had over 19 days of joyful learning experiences (95 hours of learning!). It really is a privilege to be able to walk around the Academy, visiting students and staff in lessons seeing high-quality learning taking place and amazing opportunities happening around the Academy.

Looking ahead to February, there is much to focus on. Year 11 students are entering their second mock examination period as they prepare for their GCSEs, while Year 9 students will attend their Options Afternoon and begin considering their future pathways.

You may have seen recent announcements from Bridget Phillipson, Secretary of State for Education, regarding mobile phone use in schools. Our policy currently remains unchanged: students may bring phones into the Academy, but they must be switched off and kept in bags. Any phone seen in use during the day will be taken to reception for collection after school. Thank you for your continued support with this.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.



Academy

Attendance Information



Attendance remains a very high priority for us as a community. If students are not in the Academy we are not able to help to support them, or teach them the knowledge and skills they need to succeed. It is vital that all children are in the Academy every day. It is vital all students attend their lessons on time.

Attendance for this week: 90.4%

Top 10 Tutors of the week:

7CMO

9JXP

10RZC

8MAL

8SK

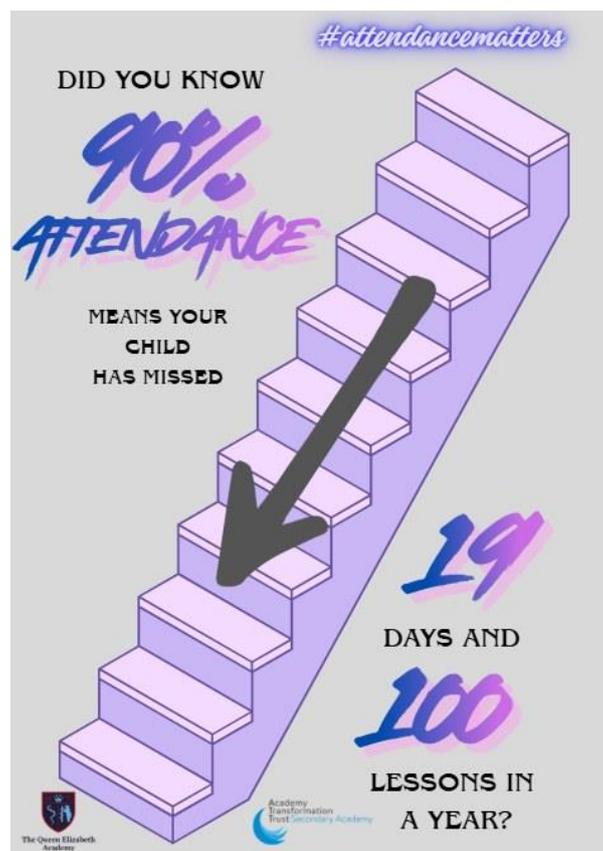
9TMA

7DTI

7SJ

10LD

11MW



Attendance Matters - Make every day count

Good Attendance is REWARDING



This week in the Academy our coveted Jump the Queue passes have been flying out. We have been rewarding our students who have significantly improved their attendance. These students have shown resilience in building their attendance back up.

		<h3>Year 7</h3>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miley Wright Isla Thompson Harvey Bates Ethan Cattell Oliver Dickinson Deus Guest Aleksander Kuras Vinnie-Joe Riley 	
		<h3>Year 8</h3>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patrick Pitura Lucas Pyper Aleya Tonks Evelyn Ashmore Teddy Baxter Lyle Bloomer Amelia Boss Max Bostock Ethan Cogswell May Dunkley Bella Evans Freddie Grainger Jaxon Harris Amelia Keyte Huw Kroska Ellie Lewandoski Kacspier Mierzejewski Kian Mitchell Mia O'Keefe Oliver Williams Layla Wetton 	



Year 9

Ellie Ball

Macie-Jane Balmer Mia Cavanagh

Lily Banks Ruby Bibby Joseph Corbett Tyler Everitt

Heidi Dudley -Giles Lyra Farmer Finley Milbourne

Cameron Mullen Ethan Pickering Jack Pickering

Mia-Rose Rogers Archie Ronald

Emilie Stuart Olivia Wood

Autumn-Rose White





Year 10

Alyssa Orton Lacey Bennett

Sophie Petch Holly Cogswell Kieran Harvey

Isabella Watson-Hill Ellis Mann

Eve King Bryn Sweet Keria Newton

Evie McSherry Archie Wortley

Charlotte Maynes





Year 11

Christopher Boss Jack Clark

Dylan Cox Connie Kiteley Jayden Marange

Leon Swann-Tolley Isabella Wall

Cayden Clarke Lily Cooper Finley Goddard

Daniel Marino Amber Morris

Liam Tarplee




We also held our first raffle prize draw this week. The students gain raffle tickets for improving their attendance or consistently maintaining their attendance.









Joyful Learning

Each week we would like to share with the *joyful learning* taking place in the academy and this week has been no exception. Please enjoy looking at some examples of the fantastic work your young people have produced.





Jack brought in some items that were used during the war this week to show our Year 8 class. They belonged to a family member.

These were to help write a letter from a soldier on the frontline in World War 1.

Mrs Reynolds - Teacher of English and Dance



Fantastic effort from our year 9 girls fitness team who competed across 6 cross fit style events this week, winning some events and coming top three in others coming out 3rd overall. Excellent effort and new skills picked up, well done!

Ms Wilson - Curriculum Leader of Performing Arts



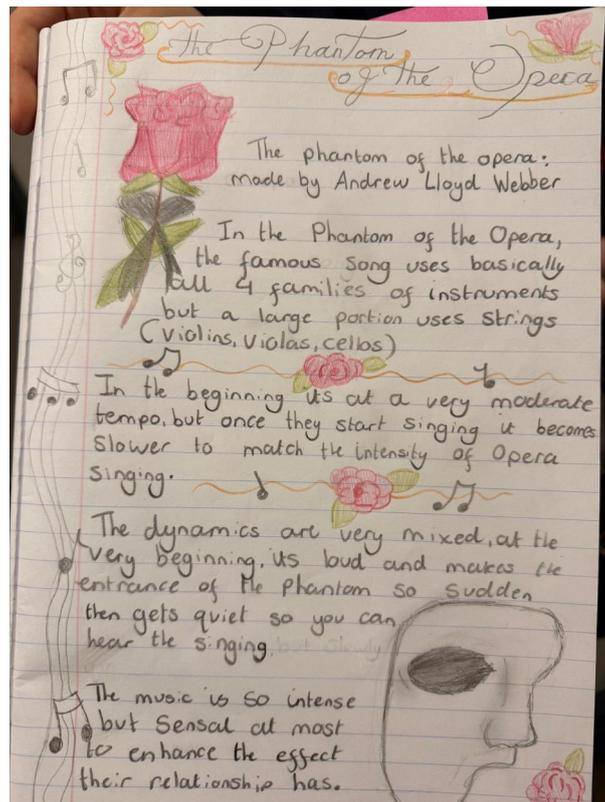
Year 8 girls headed to Higham Lane to compete in both track and field events on Thursday night achieving top three positions in most events seeing them 3rd place over the whole competition overall. Tremendous effort, pride and endeavour throughout the events with some sterling performances from Lilley in the Shot put, Millie in the 200m and Evie's cheerleading throughout the events encouraging peers was greatest appreciated especially in the longer events.



On Monday the year 9 boys had a fitness tournament hosted at TQEA.

Attended by 6 schools from the local area. They did extremely well putting some big scores in along the way. Missing out on a chance to represent the local area by a small margin!





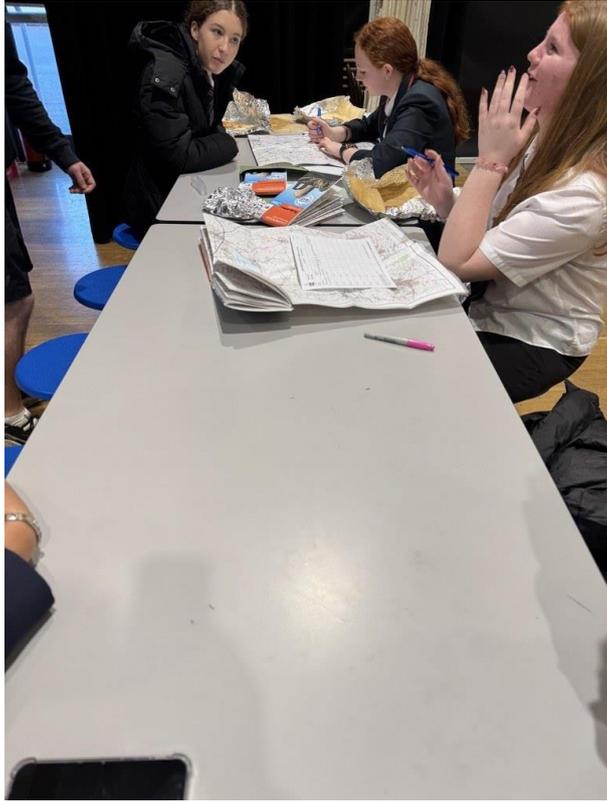
Some wonderful work from our Year 11's in **Music** this week as they are preparing their coursework, individually and as an ensemble.

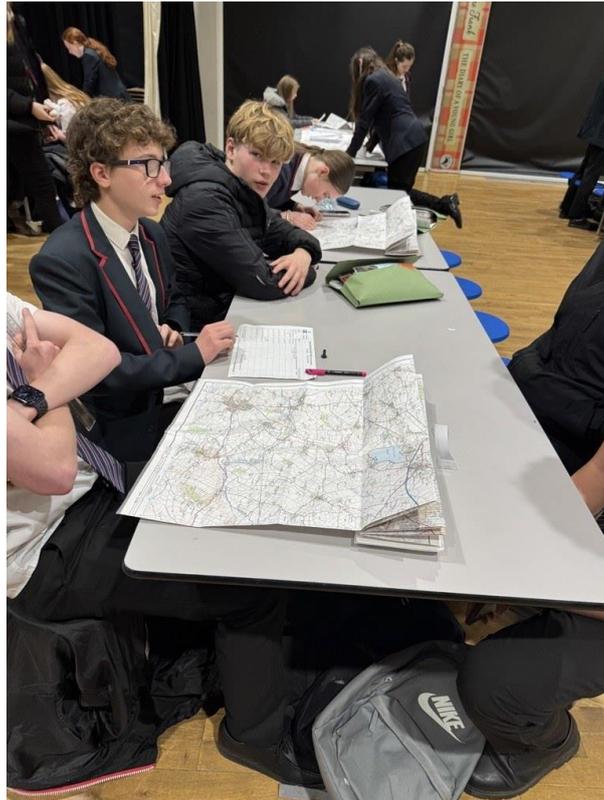
Mrs Deeley - Curriculum Leader of Music

Also from **Music** this week Macie-Jane has produced a wonderful piece of work focusing on The Phantom of the Opera musical.

Mrs Deeley - Curriculum Leader of Music







Our Year 9 and 10 students have been working incredibly hard this year, learning new skills and planning their practice and assessed expedition routes for the summer. They have a real handle on the key skills needed to plan an effective route, including using 6-figure grid references and the use of contours to plan challenging but fun routes for the summer term. They are ready for some tent building skills and cooking classes, alongside some first aid and equipment packing sessions to take place in the coming weeks.

In the background, they are working hard on the skills, volunteering, and physical sections of the course, learning new languages, supporting primary school events, sports leaders, attending cooking classes, and learning sign language. The DofE team is super proud of their efforts, independence, and constant energy they give to the award.

Ms Wilson - Curriculum Leader of Performing Arts

Behaviour Updates at TQEA



1 - Mrs Walker

Assistant Principal - Behaviour and Culture

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that all students attend the Academy in the correct uniform. The vast majority of our students are smart and demonstrate our key TQEA value of pride by wearing their uniform properly. There are, however, a small number of students who are continuing to not meet our uniform expectations.

Moving forwards, any students not in the **correct uniform** which includes wearing false eyelashes and having nose studs in or multiple piercings, will be in the Inclusion Room due to the very low numbers now not following the uniform policy.

Mobile phones - this is a government directive and therefore phones **MUST** not be used in schools. If students are on their phones, they will be confiscated until the end of the day. If students need to contact home, this needs to be done through reception or with their HOY. It is proven that the use of phones negatively impacts students' learning and it increases poor mental health.

Detentions - please remember that if a student has a detention, they **MUST** attend it. If they do not attend, this will be escalated.

As always, your support is greatly appreciated in making our school a calm, positive and safe environment for all students.



Starting 23rd February 2026

Celebrating Positive Choices Every Day

What Are PERKS?
 PERKS is our school-wide rewards system that recognises:
 ✓ positive behaviour ✓ strong effort ✓ good attitudes
 Students earn points for the choices that help them succeed – in lessons and beyond.

Our Core Values



PRIDE

- Taking responsibility
- Correct uniform
- High-quality work



ENDEAVOUR

- Trying their best
- Staying focused
- Giving full effort



RESILIENCE

- Persevering
- Improving after feedback
- Not giving up



KINDNESS

- Respect
- Empathy
- Helping others

What Can Students Earn?

Points	Reward	When
R1	1	Daily:
R2	5	Weekly:
R3	10	Half-term
R4	15	Term
R5	20	Exceptional

Points can be earned for any of the 4 values.

How Points Are Awarded

- ✓ Correct uniform
- ✓ Excellent classwork
- ✓ Good manners
- ✓ Helping others

Why It Matters

- ✓ Improve behaviour
- ✓ Build confidence
- ✓ Increase motivation
- ✓ Create a calm learning environment

Thank you for supporting positive choices at TQEA
 Suzi Shepherd – Associate Assistant Principal

Year 11 - Pride in their achievements



2 - Mrs Arnold

Assistant Principal - Raising Standards

This week Year 11 had an assembly to celebrate their progress from their mock exams. Students achieving a 7 or above in English and Maths received a Gold badge. A 5+ in both received a Silver Badge and those receiving Bronze badges achieved a 4+.

We are very proud of them and have encouraged them to wear their badges with **PRIDE**.



Endeavour

One of our Year 10 students Katie embodied one of our core values this week **Endeavour** to achieve one of her goals.

She was scouted and has officially scored herself a spot at Coventry City Ladies Football Club.



GCSE Options Evening

Our Year 9 students are approaching the very important stage in their educational career where they will be starting to consider their option choices for GCSE. The process starts with Year 9 Progress Evening on Thursday 22nd January and is then supported by an Options Assembly in the Academy and the GCSE Options Afternoon on Thursday 5th February. There will be plenty of opportunities for students to talk to their teachers and their form tutor about their options as well as those vital discussions at home with yourselves.



Spring Term XTRA Programme

SIGN UP WITH YOUR TEACHERS!

XTRA

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE BOOK NOW!

OUR LUNCHTIME & AFTER SCHOOL SCHOOL CLUBS!

Pride • Endeavour • Resilience • Kindness

#Transforming lives

TERM 2 GET READY FOR.....

Term 2 Time/Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Break Time Club 10.55-11.15 <i>Book online needed</i>	Who: All yrs (10 priority) What: Trampolining Lead: Mr Webb	Who: All yrs (8 priority) What: Football Lead: Mr Webb	Who: All yrs (7 priority) What: Trampolining Lead: Miss Wilson	Who: All yrs (9 priority) What: Football Lead: Mr Morgan	Who: All yrs (11 priority) What: Trampolining Lead: Mr Morgan wk. 1, Miss Wilson wk.2
After School club 3.05-4.05 <i>Call PE Kit needed</i>	Who: Years-7/8/9/10 What: Leadership Academy Lead: Rory	Who: All Years What: Football Lead: Mr Morgan + Mr Webb Who: All years What: Trampoline Lead: Miss Wilson	Who: Yr 9 and 10 What: DoE Bronze award (main hall) Lead: Miss Wilson and Mr Morgan	Who: Yr 10/11 Exam Groups: (PE, Drama, Music, Dance) What: Catch up/ homework support (1.01) Lead: Miss Wilson/ Mr Webb/ Mr Stewart/ Mrs Deeley	Who: All years What: Badminton Lead: Mr Morgan Who: All years What: Trampoline Lead: Mr Webb

XTRA

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club
Lunch Trampolining	Lunch Football	Lunch Football	Lunch Trampolining	Lunch Football	Lunch Trampolining
The Leadership Academy (PE)	The Great Debate (Y7-9, Sign up in English)	Performing Arts	Dut (Y9-10)	Art Club (Y6, Y7, Sign up with Mrs Bennett)	PE (Badminton and Trampolining)
	PE (Football & Trampolining)	Coding (Y7-9, Sign up with Mr Moore)	Performance Family Support (Y8-10)	Responsibility Club (Y8-10) Sign up with Mr Jones	
		UNICEF (Y7-9, Sign up with Mr Jones)			

Pride • Endeavour • Resilience • Kindness

#Transforming lives

TQEA Coffee Morning



SCHOOL COFFEE MORNING



**THURSDAY 26TH
FEBRUARY 2026**



9:30AM-11AM



**THE QUEEN
ELIZABETH
ACADEMY
ATHERSTONE
CV9 1LZ**

**THIS SESSION IS WITH THE
FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIP
SUPPORT TEAM, AND THE
FAMILY INFORMATION
SERVICE, IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH EARLY SUPPORT.**



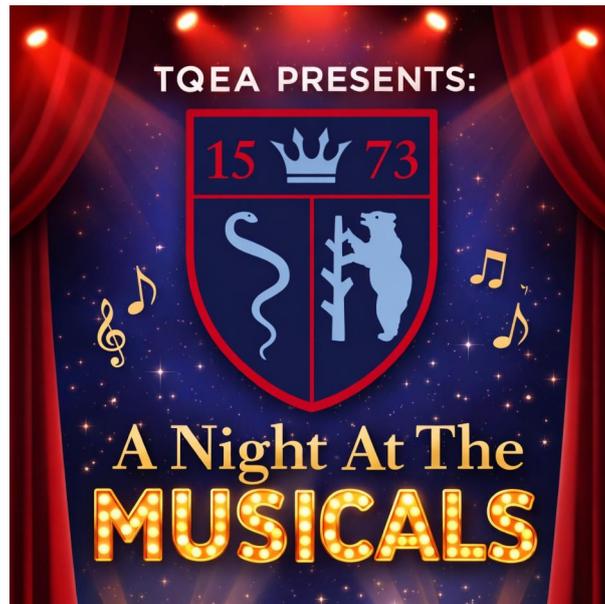
For further information please email
ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk

Come along to our coffee session to find out how our offer can help you:

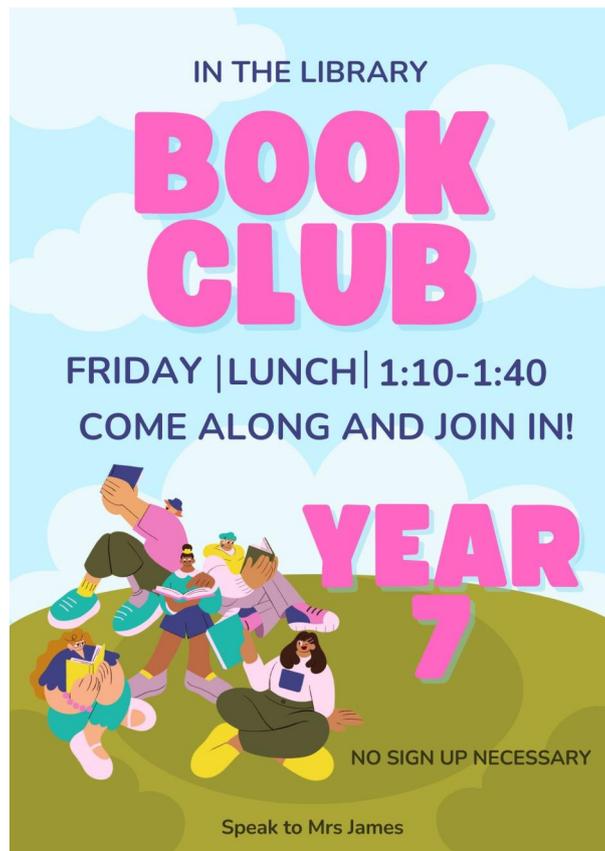
- Find out what workshops we offer.
- Your opportunity to have your parenting questions answered.
- Learn about our Early Support offer.
- Learn about the Family Information Service.
- Opportunity to talk to other parents.

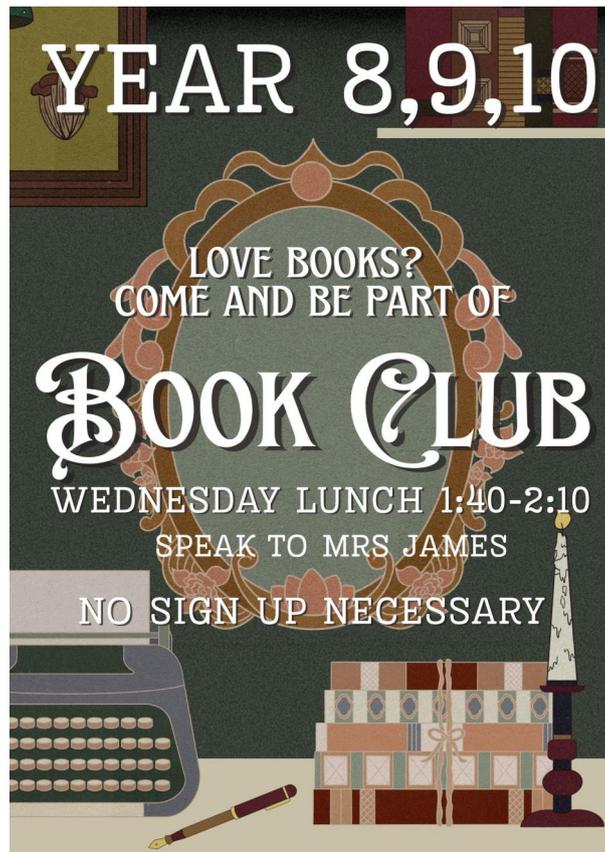


Within School Notices



3 - Keep checking for further updates about our exciting summer show.





Warwickshire County Council gives families free access to Togetherness online learning pathways to support wellbeing, for parents, carers, grandparents and young people.

Learn from NHS clinical psychologists, practitioners, and other parents. The pathways will help you and your family understand and manage emotions in everyday life.

Pathways can be completed anywhere, anytime, at your own pace. Each pathway contains several steps, and each pathway stage takes around 15 to 20 minutes to complete.

Warwickshire residents can gain free access to the pathways by using the access code BEAR.

There's also a selection of other online and [face-to-face parenting support](#), covering a wide range of topics.

See the link below:

[Free online learning to help parents feel more confident – Warwickshire County Council](#)

Upcoming Events



5th February 2026 - Year 9 Options Evening

9th - 13th February 2026 - Year 11 Mock Exams

12th February 2026 - Year 8 HPV vaccinations

12th February 2026 - Year 10 Progress Evening (Opens Tuesday 3rd February at 8am and closes on Tuesday 10th February at 1pm)

13th February 2026 - Break up for half term.

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 each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
 - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
 - Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): 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 (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): 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.