

# Newsletter 9.1.256



Welcome back!

I hope you all had a relaxing time enjoying Christmas with your families, I know I did! It's been so lovely seeing the children return in such good spirits this week too, they've obviously enjoyed their break.

## Lunchtime and Breaktime requests

We have a number of children and staff with SEVERE nut allergies. We therefore ask that parents DO NOT send in food items containing Nutella as this contains hazelnuts. If you are going to send in chocolate spread items please ensure they are NUT FREE.



## Applications for September 2026 intake are now open, and close on January 15th, 2026.

You'll need to create an account, add your child's details, and select up to three preferred schools by the closing date. Please note that it is not a first come first served application process. Evidence of your child's birth and your address will be required for the application. (<https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/SynergyWeb/SchoolAdmissions/>)



## Supporting Safeguarding Concerns



If you do see anything of concern in relation to a child, we ask that you make a telephone referral to Social Care by calling 01522 782111. This can be done anonymously. If you have a genuine concern about an adult in the local community, please telephone the police.

## Year 5 and Year 6 Parents - Young Voices

It's only 2 weeks to Young Voices 2026!!!

You can find the playlists here:



Please go to [www.youngvoices.co.uk](http://www.youngvoices.co.uk) and, using your email address, set up your child in the music room so that they can rehearse at home! If you have purchased a T-Shirt, these will be sent out in the new year, the mini torches will be handed out on the day of the concert to preserve the batteries! If you are attending the concert as part of the audience, we will let you know as soon as we do how the tickets will be distributed and you will have chance to let us know about any seating preferences.

## **Raising Concerns with Staff**

We would like to remind families that any concerns about a child's wellbeing or emotional needs are best discussed privately with staff. Recently, we've noticed some conversations taking place in the school foyer, sometimes in front of children, other parents and their children, which can unintentionally cause them worry or embarrassment. If you have concerns about your child's anxious feelings or emotional wellbeing, please speak to their class teacher in the first instance, who will be happy to arrange a confidential conversation and offer appropriate support. You can request this via email at [enquiries@southview.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@southview.lincs.sch.uk) or by calling the school office on 01733 210361

## **Mindful of parking and dropping off around school**



Please can we ask again that parents **do not park in the Taxi area**, we understand that this may be tempting but please do not park here! This D-ring entrance to the staff car park crossed by hundreds of children at school opening time, we don't want any being accidentally reversed into! Thank you.

Also, If you are stopping your car and dropping your child off at the front of the school in the mornings, be prepared to receive a fine!

The Civil Parking Enforcement Fixed Point Camera, installed outside of our school in order to help keep our children safe, **IS NOW LIVE!**

Since 1<sup>st</sup> September, there have been 12 PCNs issued for parking in the School Zone within the restricted times.

(Incidentally, contrary to what some people believe, SCHOOL DOES NOT FINANCIALLY BENEFIT FROM FINES ISSUED!)

If you need to report nuisance parking, please do so here <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/xfp/form/351>

## **Online Training for Parents and Carers – Available Now**

The Working Together Team (WTT) offers a range of free online training recordings designed to help parents and carers better understand and support children with social communication differences, autism, and related needs. These sessions are created by specialists and can be watched at a time that suits you.

To access any of the recordings, simply complete the short request form:

[Training Request Form -Parents – Fill in form](#)

Current sessions available include:

- Exploring Social Communication Differences
- AET: Anxiety in School-Age Pupils
- Supporting a Profile of Demand Avoidance in Autism (including PDA)
- Executive Functioning
- Autism and Understanding Emotions
- Coming soon: *Developing Social Knowledge* (including Social Stories and Comic Strip Conversations)



These resources are a great way to build confidence, deepen understanding, and gain practical strategies for home and school life.

Further information can be found here: <https://www.wtt.org.uk/families/wtt-workshops-for-parents-carers>

### **Calendar of Events for the Spring Term**

12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> January – LCC Waste Officers in to work with Children

15<sup>th</sup> January – 2026 Reception Intake Applications Close

20<sup>th</sup> January Year 1 and Year 2 Indoor Multi-skills 9:45 – 2 (Selected children)

23<sup>rd</sup> January – Years 5 and Year 6 at the O2 Arena for YOUNG VOICES!!!!

3<sup>rd</sup> February – Year 5 and Year 6 Cross Country 9:45 – 12 (Selected children)

10<sup>th</sup> February – Year 3 and 4 Cross Country 9:45 – 12 (Selected children)

13<sup>th</sup> February – Last day of term

*(Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> – CADS Pantomimes in School Hall)*

### **Mental Health Padlet**



**Children:** If you are worried about your child's mental health, and would like information or signposting to help, Miss Stanojevic has created a suite of resources for you to look through. We hope you find them helpful:

<https://padlet.com/zoestanojevic/f9n5vfk8qytx6c3b>

**Adults:** Likewise, if you are struggling with your own mental health or are just looking for someone to talk to, please see our new Mental Health for Parents/Carers padlet which has a wealth of local and national charities that

you can tap into for support: <https://padlet.com/corrinemitcham/mentalhealthparents>

### **SEN Padlet**

If you are worried about your child's additional needs and would like information or signposting to help, Mrs Mitcham and Mrs Henderson have created a suite of resources for you to look through. We hope you find them helpful: <https://padlet.com/corrinemitcham/SouthViewSENDSCO>



### **Safeguarding Padlet**



If you are worried about your safeguarding and would like information or signposting to help, Miss Turner and Miss Creasey have created a suite of resources for you to look through. We hope you find them helpful.

If you do see anything of concern in relation to a child, we ask that you make a telephone referral to Social Care by calling 01522 782111. This can be done anonymously. If you have a genuine concern about an adult in the local community, please telephone the police.

<https://padlet.com/nikitacreasey/safeguarding-guide-for-parents-carers-z16tu0bjogxihihd>

### **Term Dates (2027-8 now available)**

**Please note, sometimes Lincolnshire Terms Dates are NOT the same as those of Peterborough or Cambridgeshire.**

	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028
<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Training Day Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd September 2025</b> Begins Thursday 4th September 2025 Ends Thursday 23rd October 2025	<b>Training Day Tuesday 1st September and Wednesday 2nd September 2026</b> Begins Thursday 3rd September 2026 Ends Friday 23rd October 2026	<b>Training Day Thursday 2nd September and Friday 3rd September 2027</b> Begins Monday 6th September 2027 Ends Friday 22nd October 2027
<b>Term 2</b>	Begins Monday 3rd November 2025 Ends Friday 19th December 2025	Begins Monday 2nd November 2026 Ends Friday 18th December 2026	Begins Monday 1st November Ends Friday 17th December 2027
<b>Term 3</b>	<b>Training Day Monday 5th January 2026</b> Begins Tuesday 6th January 2026 Ends Friday 13th February 2026	<b>Training Day Monday 4th January 2027</b> Begins Tuesday 5th January 2027 Ends Friday 12 February 2027	<b>Training Day Tuesday 4th January 2028</b> Begins Wednesday 5th January 2028 Ends Friday 11th February 2028
<b>Term 4</b>	Begins Monday 23rd February 2026 Ends Thursday 2nd April 2026	Begins Monday 22nd February 2027 Ends Thursday 25th March 2027	Begins Monday 21st February 2028 Ends Friday 31st March
<b>Term 5</b>	<b>Training Day Monday 20th April 2026</b> Begins Tuesday 21st April 2026 <b>4th May 2026 - Bank Holiday</b> Ends Friday 22nd May 2026	<b>Training Day Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th April 2027</b> Begins Wednesday 14th April 2027 <b>Monday 3rd May - Bank Holiday</b> Ends Friday 28th May 2027	<b>Training Day Tuesday 18th April 2028</b> Begins Wednesday 19th April 2028 <b>Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday</b> Ends Friday 26th May 2028
<b>Term 6</b>	Begins Monday 1st June 2026 Ends Wednesday 22nd July 2026	Begins Monday 7th June 2027 Ends Wednesday 21st July 2027	Begins Monday 5th June 2028 Ends Friday 21st July 2028
	Training Day - 1 day per year as twilight sessions		Training Day - 1 day per year as twilight sessions

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## School Leave of Absence Requests

If you wish to seek approval for any request of absence for your child(ren) from school i.e. for a holiday, then you must apply either by;

- Requesting the school office send you a copy of the leave of absence form. This will be sent via ParentMail. Or you can apply:
- In writing, to Mrs Tomlins, the Head Teacher. In the letter you must state what you believe to be the exceptional circumstances requiring the leave of absence.

You should only then remove your child(ren) if the absence has been authorised, and notified to you in writing by the School.

If you then choose to take your child out of school during term time and it is **not** deemed to be exceptional circumstances and/or has not been approved by the School, then this will be coded as an unauthorised absence and a Penalty Notice may be issued for the period of absence. We are unable to authorise holidays during school terms. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may result in further legal action being taken against you.

We would like to remind all families of the legal framework surrounding term-time holidays and the issuing of penalty notices for unauthorised absences, in conjunction with advice from the Local Authority.

Please be aware that **there is no right of appeal** against a penalty notice once it has been issued. The decision to authorise or unauthorise an absence rests solely with the school. It is important to remember you should discuss any concerns you have with the school **before** a leave of absence is considered.

We understand that some employers may restrict when holidays can be taken, and that travel costs can vary significantly throughout the year. However, **neither of these factors constitutes an exceptional circumstance**, according to guidance from the Department for Education, [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\)](#) and [Resources for families | Children's Commissioner for England](#) and therefore cannot be considered, as a valid reason for authorising term-time leave.

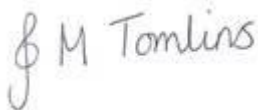
A Penalty Notice is a strategy used by schools to address the unacceptable levels of attendance of children in the term after they turn five at their school under the following legislation:

Please note: A Penalty Notice can also be issued if your child is seen in a public place within the first 5 days of an exclusion from their school.

- Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 places upon parents a duty to ensure that their child receives efficient full-time education either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.
- Where a child is a registered pupil at a school and the parent fails to ensure that child's regular attendance at school the parent is liable to be prosecuted for a criminal offence under Section 444 of the Education Act
- In cases where this duty is not being fulfilled Section 444B of the same Act empowers the Local Authority to issue a penalty of either £160 **per parent, per child** if paid within 28 days or reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in ensuring that your child's education remains a priority. Please see attached additional information regarding Penalty Notices.

Yours sincerely,



Head Teacher  
Mrs Tomlins

# School Attendance and Absences



## 5 days of unauthorised absence

Penalty Notice fines may be issued for any term-time absences that are unauthorised (for example, a 5-day term time holiday) - whether these absences are taken consecutively or cumulatively over a rolling period of 10 school weeks.

## 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any 10-week period

Penalty Notice fines will also be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any rolling period of 10 school weeks

**A school day has 2 sessions:  
1 morning and 1 afternoon session per day**

An unauthorised absence threshold can be reached with any mix of missed sessions over 10 school weeks, even if those weeks span different terms or school years. These absences don't need to be consecutive and can include late arrivals after the register closes. A school week counts as long as there's at least one school session.

## How do I request an absence?

To request an absence, please provide a minimum of 4 weeks notice, either by:

- Requesting the school office send you a copy of the leave of absence form. This will be sent via ParentMail.

Or you can apply:

- In writing, to Mrs Tomlins, the Head Teacher. In the letter you must state what you believe to be the exceptional circumstances requiring the leave of absence. **We are unable to authorise holidays during term time.**

## What is a Penalty Notice?

A penalty notice is an out of court settlement which is intended to change behaviour without the need for criminal prosecution. If repeated penalty notices are being issued and they are not working to change behaviour they are unlikely to be most appropriate tool. Therefore, 2 penalty notices can be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within a 3 year rolling period and any second notice within that period is charged at a higher rate. Any further offences will result in criminal prosecution.

## First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days)
- Reduced to: £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days

## Second Offence

### (in a 3-year rolling period)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days) There is no reduction in the amount.

## Third Offence or Any Further Offences

### (in a 3-year rolling period)

The third time an offence is committed for an unauthorised absence a Penalty Notice will **NOT** be issued but will be referred to Lincolnshire County Council for consideration of prosecution in a Magistrate Court for prosecution which may result in fines of up to £2,500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in a Magistrate's Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education.'

Families are reminded that term-time holidays are subject to strict legal rules, and unauthorised absences may result in penalty notices with no right of appeal. Only the school can decide whether an absence is authorised, and factors like travel costs or employer restrictions do not qualify as exceptional circumstances. Please speak with the school before requesting leave, and thank you for prioritising your child's education.

Lincolnshire county Council have the discretion to issue Penalty Notice fines before the above threshold is met in cases where parents are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below the threshold, or for repeated absences for birthdays or other family events.

If you have registered your child as unwell and we are later presented with evidence which casts reasonable doubt over the reason given for your child's absence, and they were in fact taken on holiday, the absence marks will be retrospectively be altered to 'unauthorised' in the register. If this absence meets the national framework, this will be reported to Lincolnshire County Council.

## Who is a "Parent"?

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 defines "parent" as:

- All natural (biological) parents, whether they are married or not;
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person;
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.