



School Notices

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Hartsbourne Road Partial Closure

16th Sept - 20th Sept



We've received a call to let us know that a section of Hartsbourne Road will be closed w/c 16th September, around the entrance to Lake Drive. It is quite far down, but please bear this in mind when planning your journey.



'Welcome to' Meeting Dates



It's been lovely to watch your children settle into their new classes and routines, and get to know their new teachers.

As always we'd love to invite you into school for an opportunity to learn all about your child's new class and ask any questions you might have. Please don't worry if you're unable to attend as all the information will be added to Google Classroom after the event.

The dates and times are as follows:

Tuesday 17th September

Year 1 - 2.00pm

Year 2 - 2.30pm

Wednesday 18th September

Year 5 - 2.00pm

Year 6 - 2.30pm

Thursday 19th September

Year 3 - 2.00pm

Year 4 - 2.30pm

Statutory Attendance Support Team Penalty Notice Fines Sept 2024



Helping Parents understand Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance

From 19 August 2024, there is a National Framework for Penalty Notice Fines being issued for unauthorised absences recorded by schools.

National Threshold

A single consistent national threshold for when a Penalty Notice **must** be considered by **ALL** schools in England, this is:

- 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.
 - These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence.
 - For example, a 5-day unauthorised leave of absence would meet the national threshold.
- The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Who may be fined?

- Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent without authorisation from school.
- For example, 3 siblings absent for unauthorised leave during term-time would result in each parent/carer receiving 3 separate fines.

Definition of Parent

- Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 states that, in relation to a child or young person, a 'parent' includes any person who is not a parent (from which can be inferred 'biological parent') but who has parental responsibility for or care of the child.
- Parent refers to a person who typically has care of a child or young person if the child lives with them either full or part time and they look after them, irrespective of what their biological or legal relationship is with the child.

First Offence

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

- £80 per parent, per child if paid **within 21 days**.
- If **not paid within 21 days**, the fine will increase to **£160 per parent, per child**, payable between the 22nd and 28th day.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence, a reduced rate is not available. The amount therefore will be:

£160 per parent, per child – payable within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed, a Penalty Notice WILL NOT be issued, and the case will be presented **straight to the Magistrate's Court**:

- **Prosecution** can result in **criminal records** and **fines of up to £2,500**. Cases found **guilty** in a **Magistrates Court**
- can show on the parent's future DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) certificate (Disclosure and Barring Service) due to a **'failure to safeguard a child's education'**

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have had a lovely Summer break and the children are settling into their new classes.

I am Dupe Balogun and I have owned and ran Topkidz Group Limited for 23 years. We currently run six locations across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire with Hartsbourne Primary School being our 7th setting. Firstly, I would like to thank everyone that completed a questionnaire last academic year in support of wraparound care at Hartsbourne Primary School. We are honoured as an organisation to be offered the opportunity to open an after school club at your child's school.

We are pleased to say that we have now been granted Ofsted registration to offer the after school club to the children of Hartsbourne Primary School. Our proposed opening date is now the week after the October 2024 half term holidays. As you may appreciate, we still have a few vital things to finalise before we open our doors to your children.

- Finalise staffing (already in process)
- Complete staffing DBS checks/references/compulsory training
- Registration of children
- Insure the setting
- Move in our equipment and furniture

We are working very closely with the School Leadership team to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

To answer some frequently asked questions, please see responses below:

1. Registrations - Yes, we will start accepting registrations as from 9th September 2024. Please email info@topkidzgroup.co.uk for registration information.
2. Price - All this information is within the registration link. Until 5 pm - £9; Until 6 pm - £11. There will be opportunities for ad hoc bookings for an extra 10% please.
3. Siblings discount - There is a 10% siblings' discount if they attend on the same days.
4. Take over date - Provisionally set for week after October half term holidays.
5. Minimum required per day - We require registered regular interest of 10 children per day to offer any day of the week.
6. Flexibility - Due to current working patterns, we offer flexibility at all our settings. Having said that, we also need to ensure we stay financially viable and keep in line with Ofsted's regulations and standards at all times.
7. Activities on offer - Further information on these can be found in our registration information. Also, please visit our website to give you an idea of what we do at our settings.
8. Payment - Yes, we will accept childcare vouchers, Tax Free Childcare payments and Bank transfers.
9. Food provided - We offer a substantial snack at all our settings, not dinner but something that will keep children until they get home at around 6/6.30 pm. Further details shared within the registration information.

Please feel free to send further questions if need be, which I shall try and answer or direct to Hartsbourne's Senior Leadership team.

Thank you for your patience and we look forward to offering our services once we are ready to do so.

Regards

Dupe Balogun

Topkidz Group Limited

www.topkidzgroup.co.uk



Class Specific Messages



Reception and Nursery - Google Classroom Access

Dear Parents,

At Hartsbourne, each class has their own Google Classroom. This is where we will share information, such as what children are learning in class, make any requests, for example for when children need to bring anything specific into school, and where we will give ideas for home learning, and for Reception, where we will set homework tasks.

To join your child's Google Classroom:

- go to: www.classroom.google.com (this can be done on any device)
- enter your child's email address (this can be found in your Arbor account)
- enter the password 'changeme' and you will be prompted to set a new password.

We would also recommend downloading the Google Classroom app as you can set this to alert you when your child's class teacher posts something new.

Please remember to also read the whole-school weekly messages and newsletters sent to you via email, so you are aware of whole-school events, Any communication to teachers should be sent to: parents@hartsbourne.org.uk as these can be missed if posted on Google Classroom.

Kind regards,

Julie Durrant-Patel and Victoria Bain
Reception and Nursery Teachers

Year 4 - Swimming

In Autumn Term, Year 4 will have swimming lessons on Tuesday afternoons. The class is split into two groups with half having lessons before half term and the other half after half term. Girls are required to wear a one-piece swimming costume (i.e. not a bikini) and boys are required to wear swimming trunks rather than long swimming shorts. Girls with long hair must wear this tied back and jewellery must not be worn in the pool.

In order to cover costs for the minibus we do have to ask for a £5 voluntary contribution. This option has been added to Arbor for the **first group of children only** and so this will not be showing under trips for your child if they are due to have lessons after half term.



Class Specific Messages



Year 5 & 6 - Hartsbourne F.C. Open Training Session

On Wednesday after school, Coach Bidewell will be running an initial training session for any Year 5 and Year 6 children who are interested in being part of the 2024.2025 Hartsbourne F.C. squad.

Please complete this google form if your child will be attending.

<https://forms.gle/VX4keuXKvV97temK8>

They should bring their P.E. kits to wear if it's not a P.E day for them and also football boots, long socks and shin pads if they have them. The session will finish at **4.30pm.**

