**Example letter – School Attendance Notice to Improve**

**School Attendance Notice to Improve**

*(Please read this letter carefully)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [Address Starts Here] |  |  |

Dear

School attendance is hugely important. For your child to gain the full benefit from their education, for their learning, wellbeing, and wider development, they need to attend on time, every day possible.

If a child of compulsory school age who is a registered pupil at a school fails to attend regularly at the school or fails to attend regularly the child’s parent may be guilty of an offence under s.444 Education Act 1996. If your child is a registered pupil at an alternative provision in the circumstances set out in section 444ZA of the Education Act 1996, the child’s parent may be guilty of an offence.

You, **«FORENAME» «SURNAME»** are a parent/carer of **«Students\_Name»**, (called in this notice “the pupil”) who is a registered pupil at **«School\_Name»**.

The school have offered support to you and your family to try and help improve «Students\_Name»’s attendance, including *(delete as appropriate):*

1. **Telephone calls.** The school contacted you every day your child was absent to understand why your child was absent and to offer their support with any issues your child may be having.
2. **An Attendance Overview Letter**. The school wrote to you, letting you know about «Students\_Name»’s attendance, the impact of their continued absence, and inviting you to contact the school to discuss the situation further.
3. **An Attendance Support Meeting Invite**. The school invited you to a meeting to discuss your child’s unauthorised absences and to offer support to ensure that their attendance improved. You were notified of the consequences should your child continue to have unauthorised absence and you did not effectively engage with the support offered.
4. **Reasonable Adjustments.** The school offered your child temporary changes to their normal timetable to support improved attendance,
5. **Improving Attendance Contract.** The school agreed a contract with you to improve your child’s attendance. This included actions that both the school and you as a prent committed to.
6. **Referrals to external agencies:** The school referred your child to external agencies so they could access additional support.

Unfortunately, despite the support that was offered to your family, attendance remains a cause for concern. Between **«WARNING\_START\_DATE»** and **«WARNING\_END\_DATE»** the pupil failed to attend regularly at **«School\_Name»**, which resulted in 10 sessions (half days) or more of unauthorised absences being recorded. Please see the attached registration certificate for details.

**You now have twenty school days (4 weeks) in which to improve your child’s attendance. During this time your child must show significant improvements in attendance and avoid having any unauthorised absences from school during this period. Should we not see sufficient improvement and further unauthorised absences take place during this period***, a Penalty Notice may be issued / a referral may be made to the Local Authority requesting they issue you with a Penalty Notice.* **A penalty notice is charged at £160 if paid within 28 days. There is usually the opportunity to pay a reduced amount of £80 if paid within 21 days if this is the first offence.**

**NB – A Penalty Notice may be issued as soon as an unauthorised absence is recorded.**

More information regarding this notice can be found in the attached leaflet. If you wish to discuss this notice, or discuss what further support is available, please contact our team as soon as possible:

Contact Name

**Name of Team/Service**

Address

Telephone:

Yours sincerely

(Name)

(Job Title)

(School Name)