

The Law & School

All children in the UK are required to attend school between the ages of five and sixteen. There are a number of laws that relate to children having a right to an education and the duty placed upon parents and carers.

- **Education Act 1996 ss.7. 443 and 444 (1870, 1902, 1944)**
- **Children Act 1989 s.36, ss17 and 31 etc.**
- **Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 and Education (Penalty Notices) Regulations 2007**
- **The Education (Parenting Contracts and Parenting Orders) (England) Regulations 2007**

Penalties for parents and carers who do not send their child to school can begin after as little as five days unauthorised absence. If a child's absenteeism continues or escalates, the penalty can even include imprisonment!

Children are expected to be in school every day of the school year.

