



# Attendance Matters

## **Increase your child's attendance**

**And**

## **Increase their chance of success**

### **Why does it matter to your child?**

Attendance and punctuality has a massive impact on your child's achievements in school both academically and socially.

Arriving on time and being in class at the start of the day means your child:

- gets their day off to a good start
- feels part of their class community
- does not miss out on any introductions to their learning
- starts positive patterns for the future, being on time will help them keep a job.
- will achieve because they attend the WHOLE of their classes;
- will start to understand that school is important and education is valuable;

### **What do you need to know?**

We know that you value our school and make every effort to ensure your child attends regularly and arrives for school on time.

If your child's attendance is a concern we have staff in school who can support you and your child to improve attendance.

### **Illness**

We understand that at times your child will be absent due to illness, if you are unsure if your child is well enough to attend, ring school on 01226 281255 for advice. We also ask that you contact school on a daily basis to update us on your child's condition.

We appreciate at times you may be ill and will struggle to fetch your child to school. At these times please contact school and we will strive to organise some support to ensure your child can attend.

### **Leave of Absence / Holidays**

The government has made changes to legislation regarding family holidays during term time. Head teachers are no longer able to authorise any leave of absence for a family holiday during term time.

We are aware that these changes may affect some of our families and should you need to discuss your individual circumstances, please contact the school.

## **If attendance falls below 94%:**

### **You will be contacted about your child's attendance.**

**If your child's attendance continues to fall this may result in a referral to the school's EWO (Education Welfare Officer)**

### **Rewards**

In school we have a number of rewards for good attendance.

These include:

- Letters to parents
- Extra playtime
- Certificates and stickers
- Termly raffle prizes for children attending every week in that term
- Yearly raffle prize for children reaching our school target.

### **Statistics**

- 38 weeks in a school year
- No time off = 100% attendance
- 10 days off = 94.7% attendance
- Missing 5 days of school means your child misses over 20 hours of education
- 2 weeks holiday during term and 1 week of illness means your child misses over 60 hours of education. Their attendance would be 92.1%. If this pattern is repeated throughout their school life, they would end up missing nearly a full academic year of school.
- Research shows that attendance and punctuality are the single most important factors in school success.
- Lateness has a big impact on learning – if your child is 15 minutes late every day they will lose 10 days of learning over the academic year.

<b>ATTENDANCE MATTERS</b>	
<b>99% - 100%</b>	This is excellent attendance!
<b>Above 97%</b>	Less than 6 days absence a year: Fantastic attendance! Pupils with this attendance have the best possible start to their education.
<b>Above 95%</b>	Less than 10 days absence a year: Pupils with this attendance will be well prepared as they move through the school.
<b>Above 90%</b>	19 days absence over the year: Pupils with this attendance are missing a month of school per year. It may be difficult for them to achieve their best. The EWO will become involved.
<b>Above 85%</b>	29 days absence over the year: Pupils with this attendance are missing 6 weeks of school. It will be very difficult for them to keep up and achieve their best. The EWO will become involved until attendance is improved.
<b>80% and below</b>	Missing a day for every week of school. It will be almost impossible to keep up with learning. This is very poor attendance EWO will be involved until attendance is improved.

### **Ways you can Encourage Good Attendance**

- Talk positively about school with your child and all the interesting things they are learning about.
- Only let your child stay at home when they are genuinely ill.
- Don't take holidays during school time.
- Try to book medical appointments during the school holidays.
- If you have to book a medical appointment ask for the earliest or latest appointment.
- If your child has appointments bring them to school before and after.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT**