



Adventure together, learn forever

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Mrs C Noble (Head Teacher)

To all Parents/Carers,

Attendance Matters

We hope you are finding the new attendance tracking system we now have on the School Gateway app a useful tool to help you see your child's attendance. Having had a period of uncertainty with attendance due to the pandemic, we felt this app would help us all to track how much time your little ones are in school, learning and enjoying life with their friends.

Learning is important – we talk to the children daily about how important this is and how it helps them get good results, get a good job and gives them many more life options. Good attendance and time keeping, **even at this young age**, sets them up for life and getting to work on time. However, we cannot teach them unless they are in on time and ready to learn. We talk to the children often about this.

The school day starts at 8.45am. This is when learning begins. Registration closes at 8.55am so if your child is in after this time, they will get a late mark. If your child arrives in school after 9.15am, this is an unauthorised absence.

Does it really matter if my child is 5 minutes late every day?

The simple answer is yes – that's 25 minutes over a week or over a seven-week term, nearly 3 hours of learning lost. It soon mounts up. Over a year this is 18 hours or 3 days

A Few Facts

In a full academic year...

- There are 190 days in each academic year for your child to be in school. In a normal year we would expect your child's attendance to be at or above 97% this equates to 5 ½ days not in school.
- If attendance drops to 90%, this is the equivalent of 19 days each year not in school. Unless attendance improves rapidly, this is classified as persistent absence.
- Within an academic year, if your child attendance drops to 90%, we will inform you of this and request an improvement. 19 days is nearly 4 weeks or a month of learning lost.

These attendance levels are not ones that we have chosen for ourselves. They are the legal obligations which we are all expected to maintain.

On top of all this, and perhaps more importantly, **when in school your child has a great time!** Seeing friends, learning, clubs, trips, socialising etc. This is all part of their everyday life during the week and the benefits that being in school brings in terms of their progress and mental well-being is immense.

We enjoy seeing them in and being back to normal after several difficult years.

We enjoy seeing them flourish and thrive in school.

We enjoy being part of the progress that helps your child develop into a well-rounded and happy individual.

That's why attendance matters!