

19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parent Carers

We write to you to stress the importance of good school attendance for your child. As reflected by the latest guidance from the Department for Education (DfE), regular attendance at school is crucial for a child's academic progress and overall well-being. As you are aware, it is your statutory obligation to ensure your child attends school regularly and punctually.

As a school we greatly appreciate that our families work hard to support good attendance.

Absences from school, particularly where absence falls below 95%, has been shown to have a significant impact on a child's education. They will miss out on valuable learning opportunities and fall behind their peers. Furthermore, persistent absence (attendance below 90%) from school can also have a negative impact on your child's social development and future prospects. Research shows that children who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve higher grades, go on to further education, and secure good employment in the future.

To meet our obligations in supporting the best possible attendance in our school we review attendance each week.

We understand there may be occasional circumstance where your child may need to be absent from school. However, we would like to remind you of the importance of ensuring absences are kept to a minimum and that any absences are applied for with a leave request form and authorised by the school in advance whenever possible. Forms are available via email or directly from the school office.

Leave in term time will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. We really are aware of the financial strains upon our families at the moment, which make the option of leave in term time increasingly attractive, however, please think carefully before taking children out of school. We have seen the negative impact of missed education over the last few years and school really is the best place for children to be.

We are aware that judging student's illness, whether children can attend when feeling poorly, can be difficult. We hope that the previous letter regarding illnesses will help you when you are making this decision. Thank you for your support in helping managing attendance and ensuring good attendance in school.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01905 763580.

Yours sincerely



Ian Enwright  
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