Corinthians 16:14 'Let all that you do be done in love'

Monday $5^{\text {th }}$ September 2022

## School Attendance

Dear Parent/Carer

I am asking for your support in improving whole school attendance and punctuality this year.
During the COVID pandemic, attendance was unfortunately heavily disrupted. That is not now the case and it is essential that we build back up on our previous positive attendance rates.

The impact upon children's education through lost learning is huge. At a time when so much education has been disrupted, it is vital that we make every school minute count. I urge you to ensure that your child is in school and on time every day, to prevent anyone falling behind with their learning.

Persistent cases where poor attendance and punctuality do not improve can be considered to be neglect.

Government departments track school attendance figures. It is considered that attendance of $90 \%$ or below is persistent absence which will be closely monitored by school staff and other agencies. Failing to improve on this $90 \%$ can lead to prosecution, which school want to help families avoid.

There are things you can do to improve your child's attendance and avoid falling into the persistent absence category:

- If your child is unwell and you are unsure whether to send them to school, contact the office to seek advice on 01617244928
- Avoid taking any holidays during term times
- Keep up to date with what \% attendance your child has so that you know if they are at risk of persistent absence (office staff will provide this for you)
- Speak to school staff with any concerns.
- Talk to your child about the importance of them being in school and let them know how important you feel it is.

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The table below provides an example of the impact of lost learning through pupil absence:

| attendance \% <br> over a school <br> year | Equal to <br> number of <br> days absent | Converted to <br> approximate weeks <br> of absence | Approximate <br> number of lessons <br> missed | School Concern <br> Level |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $95 \%$ | 9.5 | 2 | 47.5 | Pupil can catch up <br> and still succeed |
| $90 \%$ | 19 | 4 | 95 | Poor attendance - <br> we are very <br> concerned |
| $80 \%$ | 38 | 8 | 190 | Very poor <br> attendance - we <br> are seriously <br> concerned |

Our whole school attendance target is above $95 \%$, and we have made a positive start with $97.3 \%$ today for our first day. We will also be incentivising attendance in school with the children and hope you will support us as well.

Thank you for your support. I hope we can make improvements to attendance and punctuality.


Mr Paul Wilson
Headteacher

