

Attendance information

Dear parents,

Regular attendance at school is important for your child. Research indicates that there is a direct link between low attendance and poor attainment at both primary and secondary school.

All schools have a minimum target of 95% attendance for every child. A pupil who has 90% attendance misses almost 4 weeks of school every year. That's over 100 hours learning.

If children do not attend school regularly, they will experience difficulty in keeping up with their work. In addition, they also miss out on many activities and opportunities that are offered at school that support the curriculum and nurture their growth into happy and caring individuals.

It is expected that parents will not ask for any holidays in term time as there are 13 weeks in the school calendar for holidays. Permission will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

If your child exceeds 5 days unauthorised holidays in a school term you may be issued with a penalty notice. All absences have to be approved by the headteacher.

If your child's attendance figure falls below 90% you may be invited into school to help draw up an Individual Attendance Plan to improve your child's attendance or the EWO (Educational Welfare Officer) will become involved in your child's attendance. The penalty notice per child is £60 for each parent. The fine is to be paid within 28 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the amount will be doubled to £120 to be paid within 21 days of the receipt of notice. None payment of these fines can lead to prosecution under the Education Act (1996).). (Please the link from Education Welfare Service, Cheshire East for further information).

If you suspect that your son or daughter may be unhappy at school please make contact with us as soon as possible via the class teacher. Inform us of any medical or emotional needs that may affect your child's attendance whilst making sure that your son or daughter understands that you do not approve of them missing school. This will alert us to any problems and help us to work to resolving issues. Please make appointments for routine checkups during the holidays or after the school day. If appointments are unavoidable please inform the school giving us prior notice.

Please help us maintain excellent attendance. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter please call into school for further information.