



YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE MATTERS



DID YOU KNOW?

Missing a few days of school here and there may not seem a big deal, but research shows that it can have a significant impact on children's learning.

Children who miss a substantial amount of school fall behind their peers, and struggle to catch up. Most of the work they miss is never made up, which can lead to big gaps in their learning.

Poor attendance often starts at primary school, and children who fall into this pattern are likely to underachieve at secondary school. Pupils who miss between 10 and 20% of school (that's 19-38 days per year) stand only a 35% chance of achieving five or more good GCSEs, compared to 73% of those who miss fewer than 5% of schooldays.

ATTENDANCE

Being at school every day is very important because regular school attendance helps children fulfil their potential and gives them a better chance for the future.

A school year is 190 days, this leaves 175 days to spend with family, on holiday, shopping and those essential appointments. The national average for children attending school is 96%.

90% attendance over the course of the school year is the equivalent to a day off every fortnight.

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PUNCTUALITY

The education act states that it is the responsibility of the parent or carer to ensure that all children attend school on a regular basis AND arrive on time.

Children who arrive late and / or leave early also disrupt learning time, which can be embarrassing for the child and can in turn, encourage absence. It is also extremely disruptive for the rest of their class.

Missing 10 minutes of school a day is the same as missing two weeks over the year.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILD GOING TO SCHOOL?



Communicate

Listen to what your child has to say, talk about their concerns.



Ask for help Talk to the school, let us know your concerns.



Encourage and develop their resilience.



Routine Introduce regular bedtimes and getting up times.



Be positive emphasise the positive aspects of school, being with friends and learning.

REPORTING AN ABSENCE

Parents/ carers must call the school each day that their child is absent. A voicemail, email or Arbor In-App message should be left before 9am. Please note a valid reason is required in order to authorise absences i.e. 'poorly' or 'ill' is insufficient. More detail such as 'has been sick', or 'has a temperature' is required. Where the school is concerned about any period of absence, medical evidence may be required and failure to provide may result in a fixed penalty notice. If your child has a medical condition that is affecting their attendance, please contact us to discuss what we can do to support.

ANY QUESTIONS? CONTACT US: OFFICE@MILLFIELDPRIMARY.ORG