

LET'S 'THINK BIG' ABOUT ATTENDANCE



The law states that all children from the age of 5 are expected to attend school every day unless they are too unwell to do so and that all parents have a responsibility to ensure that this is the case. We want to work with all parents to make sure that all of our children have good attendance habits.

Please help your child by working with us.

At Hollington Primary Academy we recognise how important it is for all children to attend school regularly. There is clear evidence that children who attend regularly do better in their learning in school. They understand the routines, are more settled and find it easier to make friends as well as to learn. We understand that all children will be unwell from time to time, and that children may need time off school as a result.

If your child is too unwell to come to school please contact the office on the first day of absence before 9.30am. When your child returns to school please confirm the absence in writing.

The Local Board has agreed that Fixed Penalty Notices will be issued to parents who take a child out of school for holidays during term time or whose child has 10 unauthorised absences (5 days) in an 8 week period.

What are the causes of poor attendance?

- **Illness**
- **Medical appointments**
Please keep all medical appointments out of school hours where possible. If your child's appointment is a hospital appointment that is during school hours please bring them into school first to get their register mark if you can and return them to school as soon as possible.
- **Holidays and days out for outings**
We do not authorise holidays or days out during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- **Poor routines**
- **Lack of sleep**
- **Unrest at home**
- **Unhappy at school**

Please speak to your child's teacher as soon as possible about this. Keeping them at home will not resolve the problem.

- **Parent illness**

Absence because a parent is unwell cannot be authorised so please make sure that you have a back-up plan for getting your child to school in these circumstances.

Every child is set a **95%+** target for the whole year. This target is set by the government and is based upon average attendance figures across the country. Our teachers regularly share percentages with the children so that they know how they are doing.

Every child who has 10 present marks in a week with no lateness or early pick-ups will be given a token for our attendance shop.

95-100%
AMAZING ATTENDANCE- WELL DONE
95-90%
RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT
BELOW 90% SERIOUS CAUSE FOR CONCERN- FASTRACK TO LOCAL AUTHORITY

If your child's attendance falls between 95% and 90% you are likely to be asked to attend a meeting with Mrs Reece to discuss any issues that your child may be having.

If your child's attendance falls below 90% you will be asked to attend a meeting with Mrs Reece to discuss any issues and to set targets for improvement. If targets are not met you could face a fixed penalty notice. If attendance falls below 85% it is likely that you will be referred to ESBAS.