



Why is school attendance important?

Regular attendance at school ensures that children get the best possible start in life. Good attendance supports learning, the development of social skills and friendships as well as building good habits that are essential for adult life. School education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Research clearly demonstrates the link between regular attendance and educational progress and attainment. Parents/carers and the school staff should work in partnership in making education a success and in ensuring that all children have full and equal access to all that the school has to offer.

*Children with good attendance generally achieve more and are happier at school.
Good attendance increases a child's academic success and improves their chances in
life opportunities.*

What is the expected attendance for primary school children?

The Government expect that pupils attend school for at least **96%** of the school year. We strive to achieve at least **97%** attendance across all our classes within the White Rose Federation. If your child's level of absence concerns us or attendance falls below **95%**, you may be contacted by the school to look at what support can be offered to improve attendance. We want to work with you to ensure we give your child the best opportunities to grow and succeed.

Attendance that falls below **90%** is categorised as persistent absence.

An attendance figure of 90% is the equivalent of a half day absence every week.

If your child is persistently absent, a number of things may happen depending upon the reasons for absence and your child's previous attendance record. You may receive a letter, an invitation to an attendance meeting, a home visit or, in serious cases, your child's attendance may be closely monitored and you may be asked to provide medical proof of absence.

Missed days at school add up!

Every day at school counts. Absences lead to missed learning and create gaps in children's education that can seriously affect their academic progress and attainment.



How can you support good attendance in school?

- Take family holidays during school holidays rather than term time
- Don't allow your child to stay off school for a minor ailment
- Ensure your child has a good understanding of why attendance is important
- Figure out the reasons for absence as this can help you understand where your child needs support in overcoming barriers to attending school
- Arrive at school by 8.50am so your child is registered in time
- Try to establish a good routine early so that when your child does start school, they are in good habits such as getting plenty of sleep
- If appointments are needed for health reasons, try to make them during after school hours or out of term time where possible
- Offer support with homework and take an interest in their learning
- Attend parents' evenings to discuss your child's progress

96% and above	Well done and keep it up!
95% at any point within an academic year	Attendance will be monitored by the School and attendance history considered ☒☒Contact with parents/carers if deemed necessary
90% attendance or below at any point within an academic year	Letter to parents/carers asking them to work with school Pastoral Support Team to improve attendance ☒☒Discussion with parents/carers to develop a plan of action
85% attendance or below at any point within an academic year	Discussion with Prevention Service re possible referral for consideration within NYCC policy and practice guidance

How do we encourage good attendance at school?

Within the White Rose Federation we will.....

- We will use a traffic light system to monitor the attendance of the pupils across the federation.
- We will share House attendance half termly and reward the highest House attendance and celebrate this.
- We will reward children half termly through Marvellous Me for 100% or most improved attendance.
- We will support parents and families to achieve this.



Mrs Macdonald, Federation Executive Headteacher, DSL is responsible for authorising absence due to exceptional circumstances. Please be aware that holidays taken in term time will not be authorised unless they meet exceptional circumstances criteria.



Miss Maud, our Pastoral Lead, is responsible for supporting pupil wellbeing. If your child's attendance becomes an issue, we can offer support to help improve it. She is also responsible for monitoring attendance trends and making contact with parents if their child's attendance falls below 95% and formally contacting parents if attendance falls below 90%.



Ms Lindley – Federation Deputy Head of School
Chapel Haddlesey Head of School.



Mr Bealey – Burton Salmon Head of school



Mr Rich – Barlow Primary Head of School

Head of schools are responsible for monitoring attendance on a daily basis. If your child is absent, it is essential that you contact school on the morning of the absence by 9.00am. We have a safeguarding duty to follow up any absences, where we have not been contacted by parents.