

STOW HEATH PRIMARY ATTENDANCE UPDATE



THANK YOU to those families who have worked hard to ensure that their children are punctual and their attendance is high. **THANK YOU** for getting these important habits established early in your child's life as it will make a difference in their futures

WHY IS GOOD ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY IMPORTANT?

Education lays the vital foundations of a child's life and regular, punctual attendance at school is key to both your child's academic and social development.

School and the Local Authority closely monitor every child's attendance and punctuality.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN TERM TIME

Following the Isle of White ruling, we have seen a tightening up in the Local Authorities implementation of legislation. All requests for holidays during term time will be referred to the Attendance and Prosecution service

The school has a duty to safeguard all pupils on roll. If your child does not attend school and you have not called in to explain why they are absent or on holiday, the school must follow this up. This may be by telephone call, text message or a home visit by Dawn Thompson (Senior Education Lead). If you cannot be contacted and school are concerned we have a duty to inform the Local Authority who may send the police to your home to do a safe and well check.

Please remember to keep us informed.

Leave of Absence forms are available from the school office

PUNCTUALITY

School starts at 8.45am

At school, we know that lateness can severely affect achievement. We monitor punctuality closely and have strategies in place to address lateness.

School gates are locked at 8.55am. If your child arrives after this time, you must enter through the school office and sign them in on the signing in machine.

Last Year our overall attendance was

96.1%

Please work with us to improve this target.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS ILL

1. Please call the school to inform us of your child's absence on the first day of your child's illness.
2. When your child returns to school you must send in a letter explaining why your child has been absent from school.
3. If your child's attendance becomes a concern, you will be asked to provide Medical evidence i.e. Doctors note, hospital letters, copies of prescriptions etc. Parents can also bring in medicine bottles and the office staff will copy the label as proof. Medicines can only be given in school if prescribed by a doctor. It must be handed into and collected from the school office and you must fill in a 'permission to administer medicine form'

As a parent you are legally responsible for ensuring your child's regular attendance at school, failure to do so may result in the Local Authority giving consideration to taking legal action against you – a course of action that can easily be avoided with your co-operation.

Mrs Mincher school Attendance Officer is available to support and advise parents/carers and can be contacted at the school office