

Policy Statement

The school maintains Attendance Registers for all pupils. The school will work in a collaborative way with external agencies, in accordance with any national and/or local legislation.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the approach taken to:

- Recording attendance information on a daily basis;
- Recording information at the point a pupil leaves the school;
- Managing a situation when a pupil has unexplained, persistent and/or prolonged absence from education; and
- Working with authorities where there are safeguarding concerns linked to attendance.

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1 Attendance

1.1 Introduction

It is important that staff, parents and pupils are familiar with this policy. Regular school attendance from an early age creates a culture about the importance of education and learning so that all can benefit equally.

Missing learning time through having unexplained, persistent and/or prolonged absence leaves children vulnerable to falling behind in their learning and it is well known that poor attendance leads to lower levels of achievement. Furthermore, poor attendance can also impact on a child's social and emotional development. The foundation for good attendance is a strong partnership between the school, parents, and the child, beginning from the Early Years

1.2 The legal framework

Legislation specifies the legal responsibility of parent/carer(s) of statutory school age children to ensure they attend school every day. All children, regardless of their circumstances, are entitled to an efficient full-time education which is suitable for their age, ability, aptitude and any special educational needs, either by regular school attendance or home education.

The school is required to have an Admissions Register and an Attendance Register, and to place all children on both registers.

1.3 Link between attendance, wellbeing and achievement

There is clear evidence of a link between poor attendance at school and low levels of achievement, as well as a strong link between truancy and antisocial behaviour.

For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for needs to be identified and support provided.

Children Absent from Education and Attendance Policy

Individual pupils' barriers to attendance, however, often go far beyond the school gates. Persistent absence is almost always a symptom of wider issues in a pupil's life, and barriers to attendance are often specific to local contexts.

1.4 Parent/carer(s) responsibilities are to:

Encourage regular and sustained attendance for the child in their care, being fully aware of their legal responsibilities.

Ensure that the child in their care arrives at school punctually, prepared for learning.

Provide clear reasons for any absence for the child in their care which ensures the

Children Absent from

Children Absent from Education

2.2 Children Absent from Education

Often children can be persistently absent from school or have prolonged absences. Of course, there may be a satisfactory reason for their absence, most often medical, for why

Children Absent from Education and Attendance Policy

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