

**Edmondsley Primary School** 

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Head Teacher: Mrs A Rees Deputy Head: Mrs V Wood Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents,

#### Attendance in School

As previously mentioned in a letter at the start of the year, there will be a greater focus on pupils' attendance in all schools, starting from September 2022. As Edmondsley is a Maintained Durham Local Authority School, we have support available to us to help remove any barriers to attendance that families may face. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel we can help in any way.

Families will receive a letter this week if their child's attendance has fallen into a **Persistent Absence Category** (less than 90%). It is important for families to know that their child's attendance has been identified as Persistently Absent and ask for help if it is required. There may be genuine reasons why your child has had less than 90% of school, for example, as a result of illness, however, it is felt that it is important you know your child's current attendance percentage.

#### Leave of Absence.

Only exceptional circumstances warrant a leave of absence. Head Teachers have been instructed to only grant leaves of absence in <u>exceptional circumstances</u>. It is <u>very unlikely</u> leave of absence will be granted for the purposes of a family holiday.

#### Previous overall attendance rates at our school

Governors and Senior Leaders set a whole school target of 96%

Academic Year	School Attendance achieved
2018 - 2019	95.1%
2020 – 2021	92%
(Covid closures taken into account)	
2021 – 2022	93.2%

#### School start and finish times.

	Start time	End time
Nursery *	8:45	3:00
Reception	8:45	3:00
Year 1 and Year 2	8:50	3:10
Year 3, 4, 5 and 6	9:00	3:20

<sup>\*</sup>Wednesday morning session finishes at 11:45.

The top school gate will close at 9:05 promptly. Please use the lower pedestrian gate if you are late and report to the Reception.

Best wishes Mrs Angela Rees

<sup>\*</sup>Wednesday afternoon session begins at 11:45

## Effective school attendance improvement and management

PREVENTION of poor attendance through good whole school attendance management ALL PUPILS Developing good attendance patterns through effective whole school approach to attendance (including leadership, ethos and systems and processes)

#### **PUPILS AT RISK OF POOR**

absence data rigorously to support pupils with increasing levels of absence, arriving at school late or taking leave in term time without permission before it becomes a regular pattern

### EARLY INTERVENTION

to reduce absence before it becomes habitual

#### **PUPILS WITH POOR**

as possible and agreeing an action plan for pupils with high levels of absence and those demonstrating growing disengagement with school

#### **TARGETED**

reengagement of persistent and severely absent pupils

## PERSISTANTLY AND SEVERELY ABSENT PUPILS

Put additional targeted support in place, where necessary working with partners, and agree a joint approach with local authorities for all severely absent pupils

#### **Attendance Legal Intervention**

#### VOLUNTARY SUPPORT

Helping parents to access services of their own accord and/or a voluntary whole family plan to tackle the barriers to attendance

## FORMAL SUPPORT

A formal parenting contract agreed by the pupil, parent, school and/or local authority

Progressing to a legally binding Education Supervision Order in the Family Court if there is nonengagement and deemed necessary

# STATUTORY CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE INVOLVEMENT

Where there are safeguarding concerns and an Education Supervision Order is not appropriate or has not been successful the case should be considered for s.17 or s.47 statutory social care involvement

## ATTENDANCE PROSECUTION

Where all other routes
have failed or are not
deemed appropriate, the
case should be
considered for
attendance prosecution
in the Magistrates Court
(or a FPN for irregular
attendance)