



# Attendance Facts

If your child attends school **100%** they will be able to make the best of all the opportunities available to them.

**Children who attend above 95% are more likely to gain 5 or more A-C GCSEs or equivalent qualifications.**

If your child has **90%** over the whole 11 years at school, they will have missed over one year's education!

**91.1% attendance = missing 17 days of school in one year.**

Missing 17 days a year also means dropping 1 GCSE grade (on average).

Children with less than 85% attendance are unlikely to gain 5 A\*- C GCSEs.

**82.1% attendance = missing 34 days of school in one year.**

If your child has **80%** attendance over the whole 11 years at school, they will miss over TWO years education!

**Poor attendance like this will have a serious impact on education and life chances.**

## North Lancing Primary School



**We can only teach those who attend**

**Attendance Matters . . .**  
Punctual and regular school attendance is an essential requirement for successful learning from the time a child starts school

## INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

The information in this booklet is supported by all the schools in Adur: Shoreham Academy, Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Buckingham Primary, Eastbrook Primary, Glebe Primary, The Globe Primary, Heronsdale School, Holmbush Primary, North Lancing Primary, Shoreham Beach Primary, Sompting Village Primary, St. Nicolas and St. Mary's Primary, St. Peter's Primary, Swiss Gardens Primary.

### Practicalities

- ☺ **Your child will be marked late if they are not in school by 8.45am (Yr 3-6) and 8.50am (Yr R—2). Therefore every effort should be made to ensure they have arrived by this time.**
- ☺ Attendance must be a priority as we can only teach those who attend.
- ☺ In cases of absence please telephone the school on 01903 752301. Contact should be made on each day of absence.
- ☺ After illness, your child should return to school as soon as he/she is able to do so.
- ☺ If you have ANY concerns about attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the Headteacher.

## Holidays

In total there are 175 non-school days a year. This gives families the opportunity to:

- ☺ Spend time together
- ☺ Go on family visits and days out
- ☺ Go on holiday
- ☺ Go shopping
- ☺ Attend routine appointments

If your child has a holiday of 1 week during term time and 10 days of illness, they would miss 75 hours of education in an academic year. If this pattern were to be repeated throughout your child's school life, they would miss almost a year of their education.

Children who go on holiday for a week during the term, may miss out on more than one week of work. Before they go on holiday, they can be distracted and afterwards they may not be able to access learning because they have missed out on part of their learning journey.

Please note that any holiday taken in term time counts against your child's overall attendance even if it is authorised.

## How is attendance measured?

Attendance is measured over a school year i.e. September to July

It is measured in sessions and there are two sessions in every school day.

Your child's attendance is shown on their annual school report and is presented as a percentage.

## Wherever possible please make medical and dental appointments outside of school hours



## Illness

It is extremely important that you help us in knowing the whereabouts of your child. Please ring or call in and inform the school office by 9.30am of any absence. The Education Welfare Officer has informed us that we cannot merely state that a child is unwell, so please leave details if the absence is due to illness e.g. temperature, sickness.

Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. Although we wish to encourage good attendance, children who are ill must stay at home. Please note in particular that if a child has had sickness and/or diarrhoea they must not come back to school/nursery until 48 hours after the last bout of vomiting/diarrhoea.

### **Under 85% attendance = A PERSISTENT ABSENTEE**

This means that children who are absent for around 10 days per term are more likely to be followed up by the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) and be issued with a fixed penalty notice (fine).

## The Law

The Education Act 1996 requires parents to ensure their children of compulsory school age receive efficient full-time education.

The law says that parents/carers whose children of compulsory school age are absent from school without good reason are committing an offence.

### **Unauthorised absence includes:**

- ☺ Arriving after the register has closed at 9.15 a.m.
- ☺ Shopping trips
- ☺ Birthday treats involving absence
- ☺ Visiting relatives
- ☺ Extra days tagged onto weekends
- ☺ Unapproved holidays
- ☺ Having sick relatives or siblings who are sick
- ☺ Where there is no explanation of absence

You need to be aware that, although you may provide a reason for absence, it is the school which decides if the absence is recorded as authorised or unauthorised.

**The Local Education Authority can issue a fixed penalty notice (fine) for unauthorised absence**

**Please check your child's attendance on their report**