



Halebank C of E Primary School
Heathview Road
WIDNES
Cheshire
WA8 8UZ



Headteacher: Mr R Harley

Telephone number: 0151 425 5798

Date: Friday, 08 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Our goal this year is to ensure that every pupil attends school regularly and our school target is 96%.

Regular attendance has a huge impact on a pupil's academic success and well-being starting in Reception and continuing through into high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure they get to school safely every day and understanding why attendance is so important for success in school and in life.

We realise some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But we also know that when pupils miss too much school, regardless of the reason, it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is persistently absent. Much of the work children miss when they are off school is never made up, leaving them at a considerable disadvantage to their peers.

All absence leads to gaps in your child's learning. This in turn can:

- affect their enjoyment of learning
- lead to poor behaviour
- affect their desire to attend school regularly
- affect their confidence in school
- mean they miss out on the social aspects of school life, including extra-curricular opportunities and experiences
- affect their ability to develop and maintain friendships.

Absences can quickly add up.

We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time.

Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack bags the night before.

- Ensure your children go to school every day unless they are genuinely unwell
- Avoid scheduling appointments during school hours.
- Talk to your child's class teacher for advice if he/she feels anxious about coming to school.
- Develop back up plans for getting to school if something unexpected occurs. Call on a family member, neighbour, or another parent to take your child to school.

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so that they can show up for school on time every day. We want your child to be successful in school.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the school to arrange a meeting with me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Harley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Mr R Harley