



every child, every opportunity

Attendance Newsletter-September 2024

Your School Attendance Team is made up of: Mrs Bennett and Mrs Wright

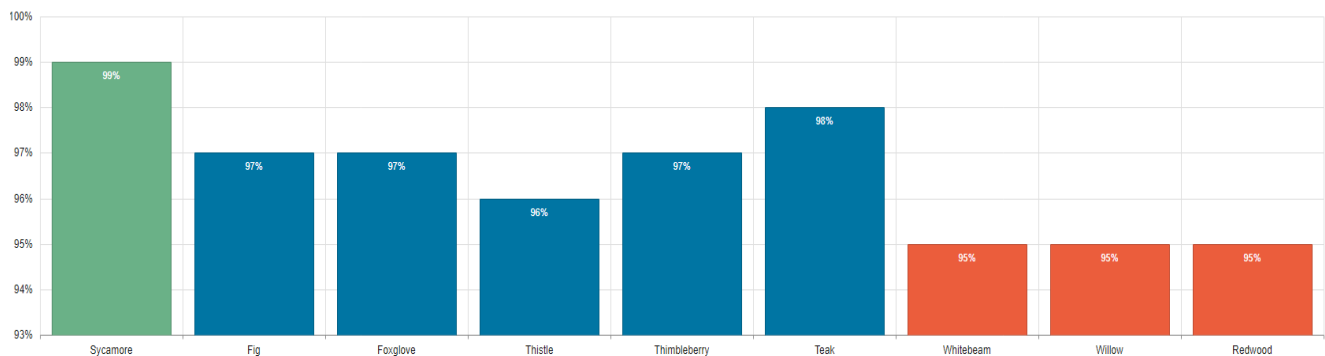


Firstly, a big "Thank you" to you all for the support in improving attendance at the end of last year. Attendance overall for 2023-2024 was 94.5%. Only 0.1% off our whole school target! This is a significant improvement on 2022-2023 at 94.0%. By ensuring your child is in school everyday, and on time everyday, you are having an impact, not only on their attendance, but their learning as well.

A reminder of our morning routine:

Gates open at 8.30am

- School starts at 8.45am
- Arrival after 9.00am is recorded as late
- Arrival after 9.05am is recorded as unauthorised



The chart above shows the year attendance for each class for this academic year. You will be able to see that Sycamore Class currently have the best attendance of 99% and are the only class above our school target of 96.4%. We are aiming for all classes to be at 97% or above by the end of the Autumn Term. This is achievable if they continue with their excellent Autumn Term attendance.

Please remember that the new government guidelines have changed and where pupils are late or have unauthorised over 10 sessions in ten weeks, parents may be subject to an £80 fine per parent, per child.

Unauthorised absence

In the last Attendance Newsletter, we introduced you to the new Leave of Absence online form. Please remember to complete this form should you require to take your child out of school. As stated in our Attendance Policy, absence will not be authorised during term time, except in exceptional circumstances. From Monday 15th April, the school will be introducing fines for parents who decide to take their children out of school for a holiday. This will equate to £80 per child, per parent, rising to £160 if the fine is not paid in 21 days of being issued, this is based on Government guidance. If you require the Leave of Absence Form again, there is one attached to this email or pop into the school office.

Avery-Our School Attendance Mascot


You may have seen a picture of Avery in our display board at the front of the school. Avery is our attendance mascot and moves around the school to the class with the highest weekly attendance. This is a great achievement! Along with Avery, the class also receive a certificate. The class with the best overall attendance at the end of the each half term is rewarded with a movie afternoon and popcorn!




Please make sure that your child is in 'Avery' day!

HOW GOOD IS 90%?

a guide for parents


 A score of 90% on a test is very good...

... but 90% attendance means a pupil is **PERSISTENTLY ABSENT** 

90% attendance = 1/2 day missed every week!
Would you be able to miss this much work every week?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
✓	✓	?	✓	✓

38 weeks in a school year



90% attendance = 4 weeks of lessons missed

At Hillbourne, we are trying hard to reduce our Persistently Absent percentage. If your child has an attendance of 90% or below, they are classed as being Persistently Absent. This means that across a whole school year, your child will be absent from school for half a day a week. Over time, this would equate to your child missing 100 lessons. This is learning that might never be caught up, no matter how hard we try. If your child is at 90% or below, at this point in the year, they would have missed at least 12 lesson.

Please log on to the MCAS app, where it will show you what your child's attendance is.

Finally, please always remember to contact the school office if your child is off due to illness. You can call at any time of the day and leave a message if the phone is answered by a member of staff. A reminder that our school number is (01202) 692604.