



Every child, Every opportunity

Attendance Newsletter– December 2024

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

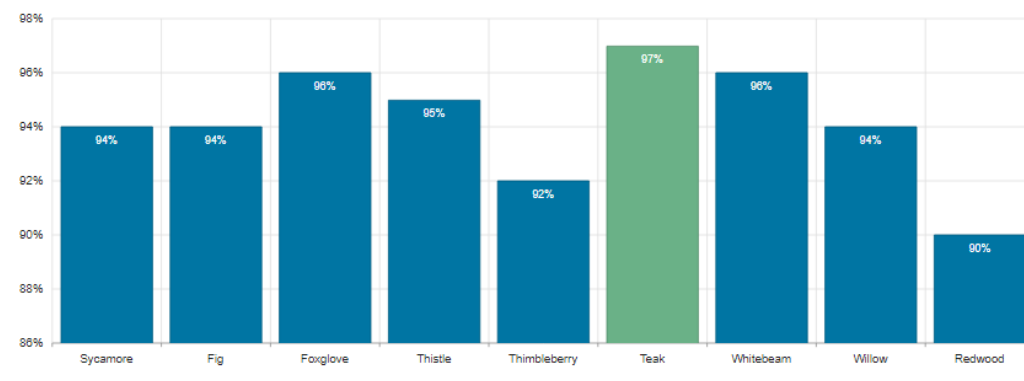


Attendance has a significant impact on a child's learning, achievement and well-being. There are times when your child may be unwell. However, we consistently work towards a goal of **100% attendance** for all children. High levels of children's achievement and high levels of attendance are inextricably linked. Promoting excellent attendance and punctuality is a shared responsibility between the children, parents and school.

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 9.10 am is recorded as unauthorised



The chart above shows the year attendance for each class for this Autumn Term. You will be able to see that Teak Class currently have the best attendance of 97% and are the only class above our school target of 96.4%. We do appreciate that this time of year brings with it a multitude of bugs which seem to have significantly affected our 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,

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

Unauthorised absence

In the last Attendance Newsletter, we introduced you to the new Leave of Absence 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. Fines will be issued in line with the Local Authority. 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.

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!



Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance	Whole days of absence	Learning Hours Lost
Excellent	100%	190 days	0	0
	99%	188 days	2	10
Good	98%	186 days	4	20
	97%	184 days	6	30
	96%	182.5 days	7.5	37.5
Cause for Concern	95%	180.5 days	9.5	47.5
	94%	179 days	11	55
	93%	177 days	13	65
	92%	175 days	15	75
	91%	173 days	17	85
Unsatisfactory	90%	171 days	19	95
	89%	169 days	21	105
	88%	167 days	23	115
	87%	165 days	25	125
Serious cause for concern	86%	163 days	27	135
Critical	85%	161.5 days	28.5	142.5
	84%	159.5 days	30.5	152.5
	83%	158 days	32	160
	82%	156 days	34	170
	81%	154 days	36	180
	80%	152 days	38	190

Lost Hours of Learning

When staff talk about attendance percentages with parents or pupils, it can be difficult for them to understand why there are concerns. A child with 89% attendance at the end of an academic year will have missed 21 days of school (over four school weeks of learning missed).

Whilst 89% is a positive achievement in an examination/test, 89% attendance would warrant a significant level of concern.

In order to address this issue, the table above has been put together to support talking to parents/carers/pupils about the amount of 'learning hours lost' as a result of a pupil's absence.

Parents need to be advised that, where a child does not attend school, they miss out on significant hours of learning opportunities (broadly calculated as 5 hours for every two sessions missed) which are unlikely to be covered again. This places a child at significant risk of falling behind their peers.