

GLENDALE INFANT SCHOOL

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Make every minute count



Why regular attendance is so important

We know that young children can be susceptible to illness and understand that if they are poorly they may need time off school to recover (this is reflected in our school target for every child to have at least 96% attendance). However, regular absences will seriously affect their learning and could affect their emotional wellbeing (sometimes young children find it hard to come to school again after a break in routine).

Did you know?

Attending 4 days a week/80% attendance = more than half a term missed per year or 2 full years missed over the course of a child's school life.

Being late for school reduces learning time, if your child is 5 minutes late every day they will miss three days of learning each year.

Ensuring your child comes to school on time every day is your legal responsibility and keeping them off school without good reason is an offence in law. Persistent absence information is shared with the Local Authority Attendance and Compliance Enforcement Service (ACE) and this is likely to lead to a meeting with them and may lead to you being prosecuted – which of course is something we want to avoid.

We do know and appreciate that the vast majority of children at our school have **very good attendance**. We introduced a rewards system within school, last term, to encourage the children to understand the importance of being at school on time every day too and are continuing with this. Some of the things we introduced are:

A 'Late Gate' once a month, children arriving at their classroom on time will get a sticker, parents bringing their child(ren) in late on that day will be given an attendance factsheet and will be invited in for a chat and support will be offered, if appropriate.

We have 2 'Glendale Attendance Bears', they will be awarded to the class(es) with the best attendance on a weekly basis. As well as termly certificates for 100% attendance, there will be termly and annual prizes.

Attached is Local Authority information regarding Leave of Absence during term time.

Please help us to help your children get the very best out of their education. If you do need any help or support then please do not hesitate to contact us, please also ensure that we know of any ongoing medical issues your child may have.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Hopkins
Headteacher

(attendance/attendanceletter to parents revisedsept2017)