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Nursery, Language Unit and Forest School

ATTENDANCE GUIDANCE

Under the Education Act 1996 parents have a duty to ensure that their children attend school regularly and punctually.

Unfortunately, as we are seeing a growing number of children arriving late into school in the morning, we would like to reiterate that we always aim to work closely with parents and carers to support the attendance and punctuality of our children, to build personal resilience, and to enable children to achieve their maximum potential.

Poor attendance and punctuality at First school can often lead to bad habits and poor attendance at Middle and High schools leading to students not achieving their best. A child who has an attendance of 95% will have missed 10 days learning during the year which will begin to impact their achievement and may also start to impact their friendship groups. At 90% attendance - classed as persistent absence - children will be missing 19 days of school and so the impact will be much more significant and potentially detrimental.

We monitor children's attendance regularly and discuss children's attendance that falls below 90% fortnightly.

Our school bell rings at 8.50 am and doors are closed at 9.00am. Where persistent lateness occurs - parents / carers will be contacted about it. In the event that your child does arrive late into school, we ask that you please record their arrival into school to include the reason why, by using the Entrysign monitor in the main outer Office.

Following a recent increase in cases of Norovirus, can we please also remind parents/carers about the importance of children not returning to school until they have been completely clear of symptoms for 48 hours. Norovirus causes diarrhoea and vomiting and is one of the most common stomach bugs in the UK - it can be very unpleasant but usually clears up by itself in a few days.

Children are encouraged to stay in school or nursery with symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough and are otherwise well but should stay at home if displaying symptoms of sickness, diarrhoea or have a temperature. If your child is prescribed antibiotics four times per day & are well enough to attend school, a dose can be given by school staff during the school day.

We would like to remind parents that if your child is unwell, we need communication from you on the first morning of illness and an update every few days. Please phone the school office from 8.15 am onwards, send us a message on the Scholarpack App or alternatively email us - office@matchborough.worcs.sch.uk



"Aim High and Smile" ☺

Matchborough First School Academy is committed to safeguarding