



Park Lane Primary & Nursery School

Executive Head: Rob Litten

Deputy Executive Head: Rachel Bains

Monday 4th December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Promoting Good Attendance

The school's attendance is in line with other primary schools nationally and in the county. However, before the pandemic we had much higher levels of attendance. The overall attendance of children has dropped by 3% and the number of children who have an attendance lower than 90% has grown.

There is a real concern about this national trend. Sadly, a growing number of children with the acceptance of their parents now:

- miss school on a Friday
- miss school if it is raining in the morning
- go to bed late on a school night and are too tired to attend school
- come to school late
- have long weekends off school
- are permitted to be off school for 'sniffles' and colds for several days.

Clearly, this is not what we want for our children and we do not want to give our children the message that this is OK, because it isn't. We want our children to work hard, do well and succeed – 'not bunk off'.

From Monday 4th December:

- Each month we will share information with you and your children on the importance of attending school 100% of the time (unless they are ill of course).
- Once a week in assembly the attendance of each class will be announced and the class with the highest attendance will win certain privileges such as having the school mascot and longer play on a Friday afternoon.
- Each week all children with 100% attendance will be entered into the 100 Club raffle and their name will be drawn in the prize draw.
- Everyday teachers will encourage 100% attendance during registration, remind pupils of the importance of 100% attendance and developing a strong work ethic.
- When children are late more than three times in a half term - their parents will be invited into school to formally discuss why this happens. Children feel embarrassed and disorganised when this happens. We appreciate being late can happen, but we do not want our children to grow up thinking it is OK and acceptable.
- Every half term a formal attendance panel will be held at the school. Parents will be invited to this to agree a clear plan of action to improve their children's attendance.

We are not heartless; we recognise that a very small number of children have genuine reasons for not being able to attend school as often as we would like. This is always taken into consideration and we will always recognise, accept and support these children and their families.

Our best wishes

Mr Rob Litten

Executive Headteacher

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