

Padstow School

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Member of Aspire Academy Trust

ATTENDANCE MATTERS IN SCHOOL. ALL DAY. EVERY DAY. APRIL 2019

Welcome to our Spring Term 2019 Attendance Newsletter. At Padstow, we are committed to ensuring that each and every child in our school fulfils their potential. To help us achieve this, we need all of our children to have the best possible attendance. Please work with us to ensure we make the most of every minute of your child's valuable time in school by getting them here every day, on time and ready to learn.

OUR ATTENDANCE TARGET THIS YEAR IS 96%

GOING TO SCHOOL — WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT

Lots of people think that missing the odd day at school here and there can't do much harm. But even taking a short amount of time out can be a problem. Your child might fall behind in their work and not be able to catch up. If there are gaps in their knowledge, they will suffer when school assessments come around. There could be other problems too.

Attending school every day gives your child the opportunity to make friends and feel included, increases their confidence and self-esteem, improves their social skills and allows them to achieve their full potential.

Your child's absence is closely monitored by the school and Aspire. Ofsted, on every visit, will request an up to date attendance analysis. When your child's attendance falls below the national expectation of 96% , you will receive a letter from the school and may be asked to attend a meeting with the Head of School.

Attendance below 90% is classed as persistent absence. If your child's attendance does not improve you may be asked to meet with the school and the Attendance Welfare Adviser.

Attendance – 4th September 2018 to 3rd April 2019

Reception:	Year 1:	Year 2:	Year 3:	Year 4:	Year 5:	Year 6:
92.3%	94.8%	93.3%	93.4%	94.8%	94.7%	93.4%
Average School Attendance:			93.8%			

What if I want to go on holiday?

Holidays during term time are not authorised in line with Government guidelines. If leave of absence is required e.g. a close family bereavement or other exceptional circumstances, you will need to complete a form which is available from the school office. The Head of School will then consider whether the absence will be authorised or not. Holiday during term time will **not** be authorised.

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	National Data 2017-18	Padstow data 4 th Sept 18 – 3 rd April 19
Attendance	95.8%	93.8%
Persistent Absence	8.7%	19.0%

From the February 2019 Ofsted Monitoring Visit:

Pupils' overall attendance remains too low and below the national average.....

Too many parents take their children on holidays during term time.

In addition, too many pupils, including those who are disadvantaged, are persistently absent from school..... see above data.

WHY BE IN SCHOOL ON TIME?

Arriving in time for registration is important as late arrivals can be disruptive to the class and embarrassing for the child who is late. Children also miss the opportunity to prepare for the day as teachers have early morning tasks to be completed during the registration period.

- Classroom doors open - 8.35am
- Classroom doors close - 8.55am
- **We start teaching at 9:00am every morning.**

TO SEND OR NOT TO SEND?

Often a child will wake up in the morning saying that they feel unwell. Whilst we do encourage children to come to school even if they 'feel a little unwell' we do not want any child who is genuinely ill to come to school.

Always try and send your child to school if they are a little 'under the weather' for example with a runny nose, head-ache, tummy ache. The school will always contact you if your child is unwell which is why it is vitally important that we have your correct contact details.

HOWEVER, please do not send your child to school if they have any infectious illnesses like chicken pox, measles etc. Medical confirmation from your doctor will ensure your child's absence is authorised.

If your child has been vomiting or is suffering from diarrhoea, then they must stay away from school for 48 hours from the last bout of illness. This is to ensure that any infection does not spread through the school.