



Dodworth St John the Baptist C.E. Primary Academy

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Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to make you aware of our **new Enhance attendance policies**, which can be found in full on the school website. These policies reflect the Department for Education's guidance *Working Together to Improve School Attendance* and set out how we will work together with families to support children in attending school regularly.

As part of these policies, if a child's attendance drops below **97%**, their attendance will be **monitored by the school**. This is not intended as a criticism, but as a supportive measure to ensure that every pupil receives the best possible education.

When children miss school, even for short periods, it can have a significant impact on their learning and development. Good attendance is essential because:

- **Continuity of learning:** Each lesson builds on the last. Absences disrupt the flow of teaching and make it harder for children to keep up.
- **Academic progress:** Pupils with higher attendance consistently achieve stronger outcomes in reading, writing, and mathematics.
- **Social development:** Regular attendance helps children build friendships, develop confidence, and feel part of the school community.
- **Future opportunities:** Establishing good attendance habits in primary school lays the foundation for success in secondary education and beyond.

If a pupil's attendance falls below **97%**, the school will write to the pupil's parents to alert them of their concerns and falling level of attendance. The pupil's attendance will be closely monitored.

If a pupil's attendance falls below **95%**, parents will be expected to meet with the Attendance Officer and Attendance Strategic Leader/Headteacher to discuss the pupil's attendance and agree strategies to improve attendance.

If further absence occurs and the pupil's attendance falls below **92%**, a referral to the Trust Education Welfare Officer will be made.

In line with the DfE's *Working Together to Improve School Attendance* guidance, we hope to work in partnership with you to ensure your child attends school every day possible.

By working together, we can give your child the best chance to thrive academically and socially.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Kaufman

