

Summary of our Attendance Policy for Parents

Our school strap line or motto is THE FUTURE STARTS HERE-

This is because we are doing all we can for your child to have a happy successful future. In order to prepare them for secondary school and make sure they leave our school numerate & literate we NEED them to come into school every day so they do NOT miss any learning.

Success at school and high achievement is inextricably linked to Good attendance.

Please do not let your child "fall behind" the others because they have missed too much school.

Be Punctual

School starts promptly at 8.55am. Please do not be late Y1-6 can enter the playground from 8.45am and breakfast club opens at 8.20am.

Anyone arriving after 9.05 will get a late mark and anyone arriving after 9.25 will get an unauthorised absence.

Lessons start straight away and latecomers miss VITAL information , which could set them "behind".

What is GOOD attendance ?

Good attendance is 96%+ . Classes with this get extra play each week Classes with 100% can win £50 to spend on treats for the class - eg new golden time games etc

There are regular termly prizes for good attendance. Rewards are chosen by the school council, democratically.

At the end of the year anyone with 96%+ gets a £5 voucher and anyone with 100% gets a £10 voucher.

There is also a party for all the 100% ers

What is POOR attendance ?

We begin to dig deep for reasons as to why **anyone would be below 96%.** Our school nurse may meet with parents to give health advice if the reason for absence has been illness. We will contact you and check on the specific reasons that the attendance has dropped. **We will then put some appropriate support in place with a target of getting back in the green zone of 96%+.**

If your child's attendance goes below 90% - they become a PA (persistent absentee) .

This has safeguarding implications. And it may be that we will invite you in to carry out an EHA plan (early help assessment). It is likely that we will visit your home, if your child is not in school & see what support can be offered to help get them in. We often work with other agencies to solve the underlying issues of poor attendance.

We will send you a red warning letter with a target of getting back to 90%+ as speedily as possible.

If your child misses three and a half days of school each half term, from the age of 5-16 they will miss four terms of education in all - that's a year and a half !!

Fines

Allowing a child to be absent without good reason is against the law. The school has the right to issue penalty notices and parents can be fined £60-£2500 if it then goes to court. Fines can occur after 5 unauthorised days off (or 10 sessions NB arriving after 9.25am will give you an unauthorised morning session.

Unauthorised absence

Examples of unsatisfactory explanations include:

- A pupil's/family member's birthday
- Shopping for uniforms
- Having their hair cut
- Closure of a sibling's school for INSET (or other) purposes
- "Couldn't get up"
- Illness where the child is considered well enough to attend school
- Family holidays (5 days can result in a fine)

Medical appointments - make these after school or at LEAST after 1pm registration so vital learning is not missed and bring your child back to school after any such appointment.

Holidays - It has been our policy to NOT sanction holidays at all for any reason. We intend to stick with this policy when the supreme court clarifies the law later this year.

Communication

Please telephone (0161 437 1899) or email (admin@ringway.manchester.sch.uk) if your child is going to be absent. If we do not hear from you we will telephone and check in order to safeguard the children and clarify where they are. If they have low attendance or safeguarding concerns we will home visit and check on their welfare .