

Styal Primary School
Valuing the Individual to Believe and Achieve



Attendance Matters

3.11.23

Attendance Is An Issue For Us

Attendance and punctuality is an issue for us at Styal Primary School. We want your child to attend school regularly to support their learning. Poor punctuality is also concerning as children arriving after the register has closed, have a late mark converted to an unauthorised absence. At Styal, we monitor attendance of every child and keep parents informed of dips in attendance. Our Attendance Policy (updated further in February 2023) is attached and is also available on the school's website.

Why Does Attendance Matter?

Attendance is central to:

- Raising standards in education and ensuring all children achieve their potential
- Supporting friendships
- Supporting a child's self-esteem and confidence

Attendance Targets (Above 95%)

The government has set a target of 95% attendance for all pupils. This rate allows for periods of illness or particular circumstances when absence from school is unavoidable. All children are expected to reach at least 95% attendance and above to do well at school. Letters are sent to families when children's attendance falls below 95% so they are aware of how this could impact on progress and attainment. It is important to note that children who attend school for less than 95% of the time underperform significantly.

Having chunks of learning missing really disadvantages your child compared to their classmates.

Attendance—Aiming
for Above 95%

**Whole School % week
ending 3.11.23**

xx

Rec / Y1

xx

Year 1 / 2

xx

Year 3 / 4

xx

Year 5 / 6

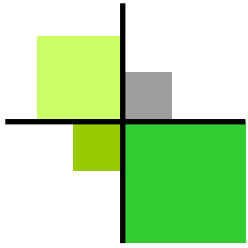
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Incentives

The class having the highest weekly attendance percentage win Attendance Ted for their classroom. They can also use the outdoor gym equipment and football/ hockey pitch on Friday.





Persistent Absence (Below 90%)

It is considered that attendance of 90% or below is PERSISTENT ABSENCE. Failing to improve on 90% can lead to prosecution, which school want to help families avoid. Letters are sent to inform families of attendance dipping below this figure. We offer help with a range of support strategies. This may be help from the school nurse, our school's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Team, the Local Authority Attendance Team, the Early Help Team and our family support worker.



The Real Impact of Attendance Below 90%

Although 90% sounds reasonably good, it means your child misses:

- One half day each week
- Nearly 4 weeks of school every year

190 days (in each academic year)	180 days attended	178 days attended	171 days attended (more than 18 days absence)
100% Best chance of success!	95%	94%	90%

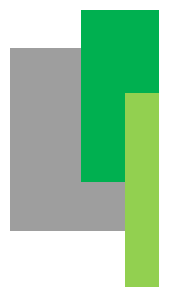
Your Child's Attendance Record

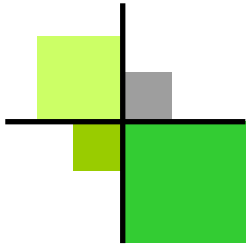
A copy of your child's attendance record is available on request from the school office and a copy will be provided with your child's annual report in the summer term.

How Can I Help To Improve My Child's Attendance?

There are things you can do to improve your child's attendance and avoid falling into the persistent absence category:

- Keep up with the attendance percentage of your child
- Speak to school staff about any concerns
- Take family holidays outside term time
- Talk to your child about the importance of them being in school and let them know how important you feel it is
- Wherever possible, make medical and dental appointments outside school hours or during school holidays.



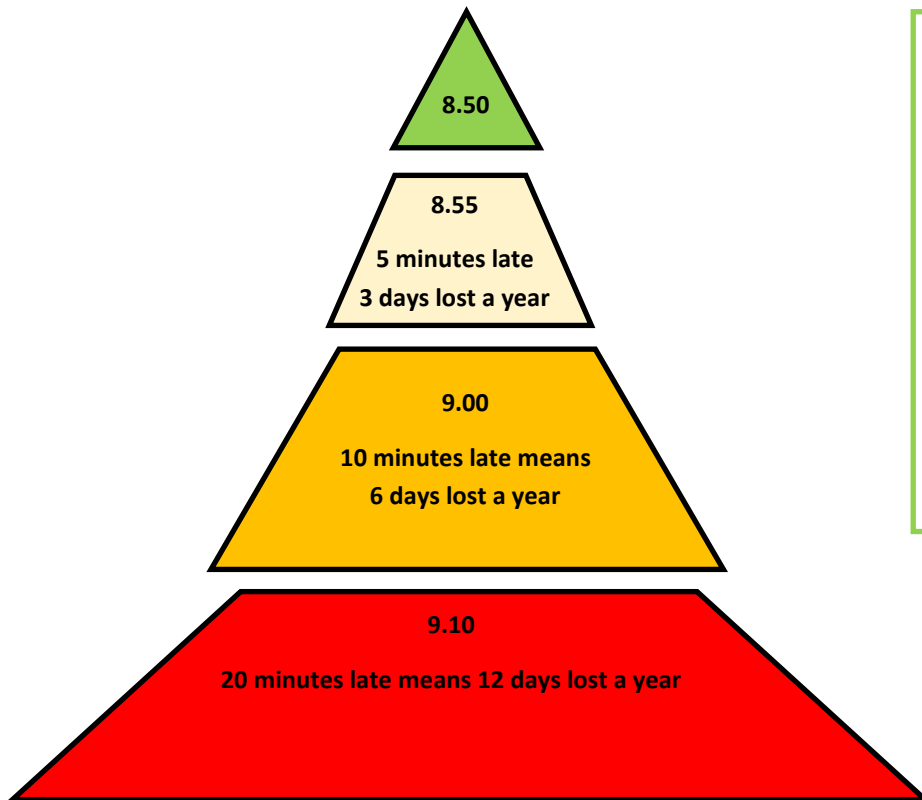


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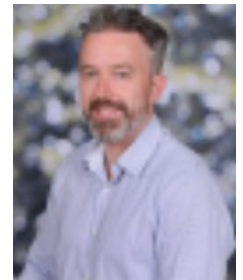
Punctuality Pyramid

Children find arriving at school as unsettling and they may miss out on important opportunities. Please work with us to provide your child with the best chances of learning by ensuring they are in school every day and on time.



Attendance Link Governor

A new link governor role has been introduced to support school with attendance and punctuality issues. Lee Walsh, our Chair of Governors, visits school regularly to discuss concerns and to support the school in making improvements.



Support from the Local Authority

Steph Beeston from Cheshire East Attendance Team will be working with families from October 2023 to share how she can support with punctuality and attendance.

