

Rewards for good attendance

This year, our whole school attendance target is 97%. We rely upon you to ensure that children are in school every day. To promote excellent attendance; we are implementing a new system, that rewards both children and their parents and carers.

End of term award and Raffle

Children, who have achieved 100% attendance at the end of each term, will receive a certificate for their efforts. We will invite all children with 100% attendance to have a special celebration with the Headteacher!

There will be a further raffle for any child who achieves 100% for the whole year!!

We hope that this leaflet has been useful in explaining our schools approach to improving school attendance.

A complete version of the School Attendance Policy is available from the school office.

If you have any queries about the contents of this leaflet, or if you are concerned about your child's attendance please contact school.

We want to see all the pupils of our school achieve their full potential, and regular attendance is vital in achieving this.

Thank you for your support in this area.

St.Francis' Catholic Primary School

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**St.Francis'
Catholic
Primary
School**



Improving School Attendance

*Headteacher:
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Improving School Attendance

At St. Francis', we expect children to attend school every day, as long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so.

We feel that the most important way to promote good attendance is to ensure that both pupils and parents have a positive relationship with school.



Research shows that pupils who attend school regularly are more likely to do well in the future.



Regular attendance helps children to develop their confidence and to make and keep lasting friendships.

What is 'good' attendance?

Anything less than 100% attendance means that your child is missing out on their education.

For example, 90% attendance is the same as missing half a day each week, or one whole month a year off school.

Punctuality is also very important. School starts at 8.55am each morning.



Did you know, that being just 15 minutes late each morning means your child would miss the equivalent of 10 days from school each year.

If your child is absent

If you know your child is going to be absent from school, you should:

- Where possible, ring school at the earliest opportunity to let them know.
- Send a note to school explaining the reason for the absence (in advance if possible—for example if your child has a doctors appointment)

School will contact parents if they are in any doubt as to the whereabouts of a child.

Leave in term time

Leave in term time is not a 'right'. Absence from school can have a serious impact on your child's education.

All requests for leave in term time **must be made in advance of confirming any arrangements** and may be granted at the Headteacher's discretion dependant on the circumstances.



Changes to the Regulations mean that schools can **only** authorise leave in term time if the circumstances surrounding the request are considered to be **exceptional**. Forms are available from the school office.

The next step:

If the attendance of a pupil is low, the parents will be contacted and asked to meet with school staff to see how this can be improved. Support will be offered to both parents and pupils as required. The use of a 'Parent/School Agreement' may also be considered.

If concerns remain, school may have to consider referral to external agencies, such as the Local Authority Pupil Attendance Support Team.