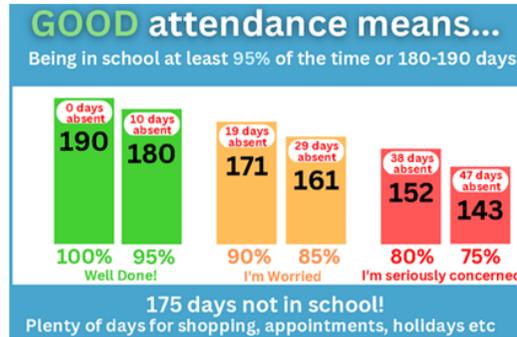


EVERY DAY COUNTS

We know that good attendance is the key to successful schooling and we believe our pupils can be amongst the best.

Although we aim for 100% attendance, each year we

set a target for attendance and this is used to compare us to other schools nationally. Our current whole school attendance target is 96%. We expect every child to achieve at least 97% attendance.



How do we celebrate good attendance?



Each week we celebrate the class with the highest attendance by awarding them a special certificate and highlighting their achievement in assembly! Plus, at the end of each term, we'll recognise students with 97%+ attendance with a certificate, and a termly attendance party.

School Attendance Matters



Parent Guide

Family Holidays

Our policy states:

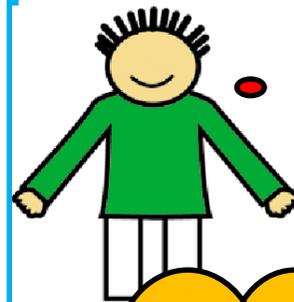
In order to support your child's learning and ensure that routines are not disrupted unnecessarily, we do not allow holidays during term time. The H code for authorised term time leave (holiday) has been removed, therefore schools can no longer authorise term time leave, unless there are exceptional circumstances covered by the C code and must request an attendance penalty notice if there are 5 or more days of unauthorised absence.

If you do have to take your child on an unforeseen trip please complete a request for leave form. These are available from the office. It will then be at the Executive Head's discretion whether the holiday request will be authorised.

Only the Executive Head may grant leave in term time where the circumstances are exceptional, for example

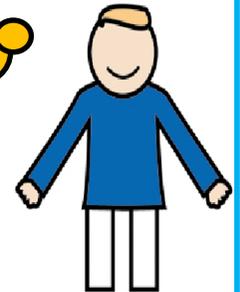
- death of parent or sibling of the pupil
- Life threatening or critical illness of parent or sibling of pupil.

Family emergencies need careful consideration. It is not always in the best interest of the child, nor appropriate for them to miss school for family emergencies that are being dealt with by adult family members.



We do not authorise holidays.

Term time leave does not just include holidays. Where a child is absent and it is believed they are absent due to term time leave, schools will be expected to carry out a home visit and see the child on or before the 3rd school day of absence.



Irregular Attendance

Where a child has unauthorised absences of 10 sessions or more in any 10-week period, the school must consider esca-

It is therefore important to notify the office every day that your child is absent, providing a reason, and where appropriate evidence of medical appointments or pre-



HOW PARENTS CAN HELP?

- Establish a good routine in the morning and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- Make sure your child arrives at school on time - not late.
- Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the rules.
- Arrange medical and dental appointments outside school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness. Please do not send an email. Call the attendance line or speak to a member of the office.
- Take family holidays outside term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work.
- Attend parent evening and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievement at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to control difficult or challenging behaviour.
- Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school - staff are there to help and will be supportive.

FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

'Working together to improve school attendance,'

New statutory guidance for schools August 2024

You will be fined for Term time leave and Irregular attendance.

Each parent will be issued a separate penalty notice, for each child who is absent.

The fine amount will be £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days, reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

The next time an 'offence' occurs, within 3 years of the date the first penalty notice is issued, the fine amount will be £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days, with no reduction.

The third time an offence occurs this will be presented to Magistrate's court with no penalty notice issued.

What should I do if my child is anxious or worried about going to school?

Our team are here to support you

Your child has the right to an education and to be safe and happy at school. But sometimes children and young people can be anxious or worried about going to school due to many possible reasons.

You may feel letting your child stay off school is an effective option, but unfortunately, this will not help a solution. It is important to talk to the school if this kind of problem arises. Please contact the member of our attendance team to discuss any attendance concerns.

St John of Jerusalem Primary School

