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June 2022

Dear Parents,

As a school we are constantly reviewing pupils' attendance. We are constantly under pressure from Welsh Government and the Local Authority to set challenging attendance targets for our school. Having reviewed the attendance data for last term, whilst there are examples of consistently high attendance, there are also patterns where individual pupils' attendance falls below 95%.

The last two years have been particularly challenging with Covid and requirements to self-isolate alongside other common childhood illnesses. However, as we are now trying to return to a new 'normal', there is an expectation to continuously monitor and improve attendance rates and work with families where there are regular absences.

Whilst I do not agree with sending children to school if they are unwell, I do believe children and parents should be aware of the consequences of too many absences during the academic year.

Inclusion Welfare Officers work in partnership with schools, and take note of the following checklist:

- Frequent/regular medical absence
- Odd days absence each week
- Days that correspond with brothers/sisters or other pupils
- Same day absence each week
- Pupils taking 'long weekends' – Fridays/Mondays.
- Holidays in term time.
- Regular lateness.
- Attendance targets for each school
- LA electronic attendance data collection, daily from Secondary schools, weekly from Primary schools.

The bands are

Excellent - Above 98%

Good - 96 – 97.99%

Satisfactory - 94 – 95.99%

Cause for concern - 92 – 93.99%

Unsatisfactory - Below 92%

Please work with us in trying to reduce our absences and lateness and increase our attendance over the coming year. Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Knight
Head Teacher