



News from the Nest

19th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers, Children and Families,

I am delighted to see all children back after the half term holiday. We are aware this academic year has remained an uncertain time regarding illness and concerns over COVID. School attendance and safeguarding remains a priority. It is compulsory that all children **should attend school regularly**. Failing to attend school on a regular basis could be considered a safeguarding matter.



As a school, we have been assessing our procedures, monitoring attendance individually as well as an overall whole school picture. Any child who has **90% or below attendance** is classified by the government as being 'persistently absent'. If you have any worries or issues that are having an impact on your child/ren's attendance, please contact school to speak to Tracey Cadman or our Attendance Support Officer, Emma O'Sullivan. We are more than happy to support you as a family to improve attendance.

One of the key factors in supporting a child in having good attendance is by maintaining good communication between school and home. This is successfully done by:

- Ensuring your child attends on-time each day. (See the table below for the impact absence can have upon a child's education.) **Remember - start of the school day is 8:40am. The register is completed and closed at 9am.**
- Contacting school when your child is absent and report any medical issues. (See contact details below.)
- Providing evidence of illness when at all possible so that we can authorise absence - for example, PCR test results and medical appointments.
- Try to book general medical or dental appointments either outside of school hours, close to end of day or bring your child back into school after their appointment.
- Reporting any changes to personal information including address or emergency contact numbers.
- Avoiding taking holidays in term time. **There is no automatic entitlement in law to time off in school time to go on holiday.** Leave of absence cannot be granted unless you as families can prove 'exceptional circumstances'. All applications must be made in writing at least **5 school days** prior to the requested leave date. (Please see our Attendance Policy for details or ask at the main school office). Whilst we support all of our children taking part in wider enrichment experiences, prioritising children's learning in school is key to them achieving educational success in the future.

How does your child compare?

Attendance during one typical school year (190 days)	equals this number of days absent	which is approximately this many weeks absent	which means this number of lessons missed (6 per day)
95%	10 days	2 weeks	60 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	Over 100 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	Over 220 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	Over 300 lessons

Thank you for your on-going support regarding promoting good attendance. Good attendance will ensure that your child can reach his/her full potential. To help us in supporting your child to achieve this, your child needs to attend school every day.

As always, take care,

Sarah Parkes - Headteacher

Useful Contacts:

School Website:
www.wrens-nest.dudley.sch.uk

School Email:
info@wrens-nest.dudley.sch.uk

School Mobile number:
07858 986604

Wren's Nest Primary School

Attendance Wise Up Levels

GOLD

Attendance is 97% and above – absent for less than 6 days in the year. Your child is giving themselves the best chance of achieving their full potential at school. They are **Wised Up!**

SILVER

Attendance is 95-97% - absent for less than 10 days in the year. Your child is **Wise** regarding attendance and has a good opportunity to achieve at school.

BRONZE

Attendance is 93-95% - missing up to 13 days in the year. You and your child **could be wiser**. These absences make it difficult for your child to achieve their best.

RED

Attendance is 90 - 93% - missing up to 30 days a year! **Six weeks!** Your child needs to **Wise Up**. Missing so much time makes it very hard for your child to keep in touch with lessons.

WISE UP

Attendance is below 90%! You could be found to be failing in your duty as a parent, regarding your child's attendance. You and your child need to **Wise Up Now**. Missing so much time from school means it will be almost impossible for your child to keep in touch with their lessons.