



Nurseries Rd, Wheathampstead, Herts, AL4 8TP

Tel: 01582 832661

Email: admin@beechhyde.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Ms K Thomas

Website: www.beechhyde.herts.sch.uk

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Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Attendance to school

It is very important that pupils aim to attend school every day, only absent when they are physically too unwell. Our school target for attendance is 95%, and we set all pupils this target. Attendance in each year group meets this target, and we are very proud to say that many of our pupils have a 100% attendance record. It is a parent/carers legal responsibility to ensure that their child attends school regularly and is not absent without good reason.

Research shows that children who attend school regularly are happier learners than those who miss school on a regular basis. Children who miss school often fall behind with their studies and can become socially isolated. Last year our attendance at Beech Hyde was 93%, higher than the national average of 91%. This is excellent and I would like to thank parents and carers for their support in achieving this.

We monitor attendance very carefully, and you will be contacted if your child's attendance falls below target. We want all our pupils to be happy in attending school and if you feel that your child is becoming reluctant to attend school then please do not hesitate to contact their class teacher or me. It is our aim to work with parents/carers to ensure that we remove any barriers to children feeling happy to attend school everyday

If your child is too ill to attend school then please contact the school as soon as possible on the day. If you know in advance that your child will be out of school, please let us know via letter. Examples of such circumstances are medical appointments, funerals of a close relative, music exam. We would ask that, where possible, medical appointments are made outside of school hours.

Please note that we can not grant permission for holidays/travel abroad (whatever the reason) in term time. This is due to government guidelines that do not permit the school to give authorisation for holidays/travel abroad during term time, even if this includes travel for a special occasion. If a child is absent from school, without authorisation, for more than 15 sessions (1/2 day = 1 session) in a term, then the school is obliged to apply to the local authority for the issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice fine.

We hope to be able to celebrate your child's excellent attendance with you.

Yours sincerely

Ms K Thomas
Headteacher

