

ASHFIELD VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR PARENTS

Why is good attendance so important?

- Children need to be at school every day so that they can do well with their lessons.
- The children with good attendance nearly always achieve good levels in their work and in their SATs.
- The children with bad attendance nearly always have problems with their learning. They miss big chunks of the teaching. A lot of children with bad attendance end up in the bottom groups in class.

Target attendance: 97%

- We would like every child to have at least 97% attendance.
- *What was your child's attendance last year??*

Rewards for good attendance

The school will be giving rewards for good attendance.

Every week:

- In assembly we will clap the class with the best attendance that week.
- Prizes for nursery and Reception children who have been at school every day that week.

Every term there will be:

- A trip to the cinema for every child who has 98% attendance or higher – beating our 97% target.

What happens if your child is sick?

- First of all, you need to decide whether your child really needs a day off school. Quite often, children feel better when they get to school and they get busy with their work. They forget all about the tummy aches.
- Remember, your children might keep saying they have tummy aches if they think they are going to get a day off school!
- If you are not sure, you can send them in to school. We will look after them. We will phone you if we think they are not well.
- If your child is really sick, make sure you phone up the school first thing in the morning to tell us.
- Remember, your child needs to be in school to do well with his or her learning.

Please contact school on the first day of absence

- From September 2015, you must contact school on the first day that your child is off to give us the reason.
- If you do not contact school on the first day, we will treat the absence as unauthorised, no matter what the reason might be.

What happens if your child is sick for more than two days?

- We will authorise the first two days sickness absence.
- After two days, we will ask you for medical evidence.

What happens if you need to take your child for an appointment?

- You must make your appointments after school whenever you can.
- Please try not to make appointments at 9am. The children all have their literacy lesson first: if they have appointments at 9am, they miss the most important lesson of the day.
- Please bring your child back to school as soon as possible after the appointment.

What happens if you want to take your child to travel abroad in school time?

- There is no permission ever for trips abroad in school time for any reason whatsoever. School in school time, holidays in holiday time.
- This is unauthorised absence and you will be fined.