



Wednesday, 23 November 2022

Dear NAMES,

**We are writing to all parents and carers to draw your attention to the importance of good attendance at school.**

Children's school attendance is expected to be above 96%. We monitor attendance for every child weekly and if a child's attendance over time remains consistently below 96%, it is likely to be raised as a concern and we are obliged to investigate, notify parents/carers and provide support to improve attendance if needed.

The national average for Primary School attendance is currently 94.7%. **The average attendance for St. Ebbe's is currently below this at 94.1%, which is of concern.**

**NAME's attendance is currently XXXX%.**

**Please note that this has been calculated from 6<sup>th</sup> September to today's date.**

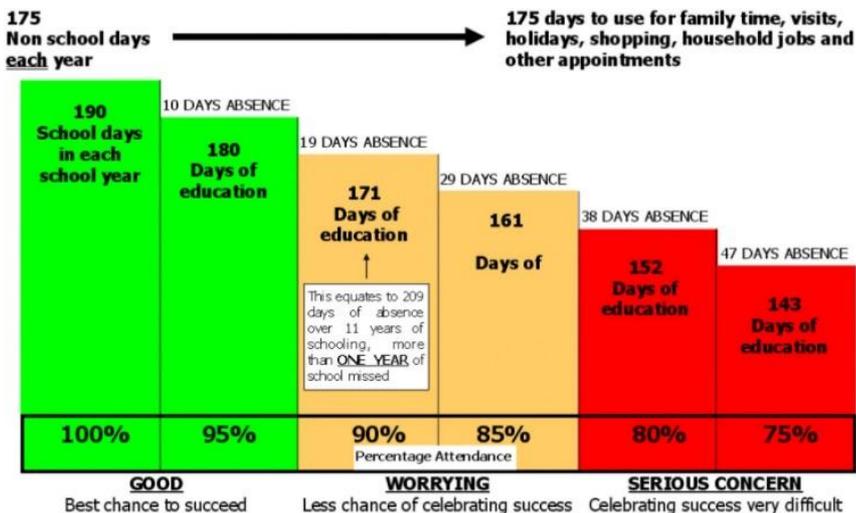
Children whose attendance is below 90%, are deemed 'persistent absentees' by the Local Authority and the Department for Education.

To check or keep track of your child's attendance and punctuality you can log in to your Arbor account and click on the Attendance tab at the top of the page. This will show you the number of sessions your child has been present and absent for as well as the number of Late marks received if they have arrived after 8:55am.

The coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on school attendance, not just at St Ebbe's but nationally. As a result of being so vigilant over Covid-19 symptoms, we have noted heightened concerns over whether to send a child to school if they have a common cold for example. As a rule of thumb, if you are unsure whether to send your child in, please do so and rely on the fact that we will monitor them closely and let you know if they are not well enough to access learning.

In school we see the direct impact on children not reaching their full potential when their attendance falls below expected.

The table below provides a useful summary of the impact of non-attendance on children's education.



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St Ebbe's C.E. Primary School  
 Whitehouse Road, Oxford, OX1 4NA  
 01865 248 863 | www.st-ebbes.oxon.sch.uk

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason it is your responsibility to notify the school by phone or email before the start of the school day, giving specific details for the reason for absence. Please find additional information about Attendance on our school website where you can use the 'Translate' tool if English is not your first language.

It is the legal responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure their child is attending school regularly and aiming for attendance of 96% and above. If we have a current concern about your child's attendance, we will contact you shortly.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's attendance, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance, or Anna Bristow at [abri3107@st-ebbes.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:abri3107@st-ebbes.oxon.sch.uk)

Kind regards

Tina Farr  
Headteacher

Anna Bristow  
Home School Link Worker

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