

Dobcroft Infant School Attendance Information for Parents



We believe that **ALL** our pupils should be given the best chance to do well in life. We know that coming to school on time, every day, is important if your child is to get the best start. There is a clear link between good attendance and good results, and we want to work together with you to achieve this by:

- Encouraging all pupils to arrive on time, ready to learn
- Talking to each other if there is a problem causing your child to miss school
- Recognising and rewarding good attendance
- Encouraging you to play a vital role in supporting our school and helping your child to succeed
- Working with school to achieve our attendance target

Our Infant School target for attendance this year is 97.5%

- Your child can be left from 8:50 in the classroom.
- Registration begins at 9:00. If your child arrives after 9:00 they are late and must report to the office.
- If your child is absent for any reason please contact us as early as possible on the first day and all subsequent days of absence.

DID YOU KNOW?

90% in a test is good but 90% attendance in your child's life = 1 year missed at school!

10 minutes late every day = 33 hours lost learning each year

1 day absence every week = 2 months lost learning each year

Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to 3 full days of school lost

Arriving 15 minutes late every day adds up to 2 full weeks of school lost

Arriving 30 minutes late every day adds up to 19 full days of school lost

If your child is unhappy or having difficulties at school please get in touch and let us know; we will try to help.

Mrs Dennison & Mrs Godwin are at the end of the telephone and you will find that they are very helpful.

Telephone school on 0114 2368099

We want your child to do well at school and in later life, let's work together.

What our school expects from parents/ carers

- The Law says that your child has to have full time education between the ages of 5 and 16, and that you as the parent/carer are responsible for making sure they receive this. We expect this to start as soon as any child joins our school family and expect that parent/carers will help us by starting good attendance habits early
- To contact the office on the first day and any subsequent days of absence if your child is not coming to school
- To tell us if there is any problem that is stopping your child from coming to school
- To make appointments for the dentist, doctors etc. out of school time whenever possible
- To only keep your child off school if absolutely necessary. A trip to the hairdresser, shopping or a day off for their birthday is neither acceptable or allowed
- Any leave of absence from school must be requested in advance

What School will provide:

- A good education, which is dependent upon regular attendance at school
- Regular information about how your child is progressing in school and prompt action to any problem you tell us about
- Contact from school if any absence is unexplained
- Encouragement for your child to attend regularly and on time
- Regular praise and rewards for improvements in attendance
- Encouragement and celebration of good attendance
- Notification to parent/carers over concerns regarding attendance through a tiered letter system.

Holidays in Term Time

Children between the ages of 5 and 16 are not legally entitled to holidays in term time. We would ask that you consider the impact of your child missing time from school, even at a young age. It can prove difficult to settle a child after any absence, particularly a holiday. She/He will have missed valuable learning and may find difficulty making friends again after a long absence. Parents/carers can receive a fine for taking their child out of school for a holiday.

- If you intend to take your child on holiday in term time please ensure that you have informed school. You should read the Local Authority 'Exceptional Leave in Term Time' policy available at Sheffield.gov.uk and complete a leave of absence in term time request form explaining why you are doing so.
- The Head teacher can only authorise a holiday under exceptional circumstances, there is no automatic right to take leave.
- Any parent taking a child out of school without authorisation is liable to receive a fixed Penalty Notice fine of £60.00 (per parent/carer) payable within 21 days. If unpaid the fine increases to £120 with a further 7 days to pay and, if still unpaid, a summons is issued for the unpaid fine.

Please help us to make sure that your child gets the best start possible to his/her school career, good habits started now will pay dividends later.