



# Iver Village Junior School

*"Believe, Achieve, Succeed Together!"*



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## Attendance

### Information for Parents

#### *Article 28*

*Every child has the right to a good quality education and attend school*

## Why children should be in school?

- It is the LAW. Parents can get penalty notices if this law is broken.
- It shows they are reliable
- They do not miss any lessons and increase their learning
- They will do better in exams
- They will be more likely to get a job
- They will be safe and understand the importance of commitment

## Why children should be ON TIME for school!

- Your child will be calm and ready to begin learning at 8.45am
- They will not miss the start of a lesson
- They will not disrupt their classmates

**If your child is late for school, they will miss valuable learning time!**



**5 mins every day = 3.5 days**

**10 mins every day = 7.2 days**

**20 mins every day = 14.4 days**

## What if my child has been absent a lot?

- They miss lessons and important information.
- They WILL fall behind with their learning and their results will suffer.
- They will not be able to do their best in tests and exams
- The Educational Welfare Officer may be informed.
- You could be fined a penalty notice, or worse, legal action could be taken.
- School may need to do a home visit if you do not contact the school to let us know why they are absent.
- **We issue attendance letters every 5 weeks for children whose attendance is below 90%.**

## What if my child is ill?

- Being ill may prevent your child from going to school, but if they can get out of bed and play, or watch television they should be at school!
- Coughs and sneezes are no excuse not to come to school.
- Feeling tired is not an illness, they need to go to bed earlier!



## **What if my child is ill?**

If your child is not going to be in school please call the office or email the school to report their absence. Please do this before 9am on the first day of the absence and each day afterwards. If we have not heard from you by 9.15am then we will start to call all the contact numbers that you have provided in order to gain an explanation for the absence. If we still have not been able to ascertain where your child is then we will make a home visit. However, if we still have not been able to get a response then we will report it to the police as your child will then be classed a 'missing child'.

## **Holidays during term time**

Parents have a legal responsibility for ensuring that children receive a full-time education. Schools are not allowed to authorise requests for children to be taken out of school for a holiday during term time.

Requests for leave can only be granted by schools if there are exceptional circumstances. Requests for leave must also be made to the school in advance. As the Department for Education has told schools that they cannot authorise any absences after they have been taken.

A penalty notice is a fine to parents or carers if they fail to ensure that their child/ren attend school regularly. Buckinghamshire County Council is responsible for issuing penalty notices on behalf of schools.



## **Rewards for good attendance**

- We celebrate good attendance weekly at our whole school assembly
- Prizes are given to the class with the best attendance
- Individual certificates are given out termly to those who have 100% attendance
- Class attendance totals are displayed on the website and newsletters
- We provide information to parents in end of year reports and reward excellent yearly attendance
- We also reward each class where no pupils have been late without reason for a whole week



# Is it really serious for children not to be in school?

Yes! Here is James.



He has 90% attendance. Sounds good ....

But is it.....?

Above 97%

Less than 6 days absence a year: Excellent attendance! Pupils with this attendance should receive the best standards they can, leading to the best possible start.

95%

Less than 10 days absence in a year: Pupils with this attendance are likely to achieve their targets.

90%

19 days absence over the year: Pupils with this attendance are missing a month of school per year and may fall behind in maths and English. It will be difficult for them to achieve their best.

85%

29 days absence in a year. These pupils are missing 6 weeks of school a year. It will be very difficult for them to keep up and achieve their best.

80%

Pupils are missing a day a week of school. It will be impossible to keep up with the work.

**NOT BEING AT SCHOOL SERIOUSLY DAMAGES A CHILD'S LEARNING!**