

Attendance News



At Slade, we encourage every pupil to be the very best they can be. For our children to make the most of their opportunities in school, it is vital that they attend regularly. Your child should be in school **ON TIME** every day during term time unless the reason for absence is unavoidable.

We want attendance to be the best ever at Slade this year and ensure that our pupils are in school and learning as much as possible. Please read this newsletter carefully as it outlines our new procedures for attendance . These are in place to ensure that your child can reach their full potential.

This leaflet explains all about our absence policy and also gives you more information about attendance at Slade. We want you to bring your children everyday so, in this leaflet, you will also find information about the rewards for YOU and your child when you come to school regularly.



START OF DAY PROCEDURES

School starts at 8.55am. The school gates will be open from 8.30am and classroom doors will be open at 8.45am. All children should be in class and sat down for registration by 8.55am.

Please note that the school gates will close at 8.55am. After this time, your child will be late and will need to come into school via the front entrance. Here, they will be signed in by a member of the Office Team and taken to their classroom. These late procedures are in place so that every child is entered onto the register and can be accounted for in case of an emergency.

Attendance News



This year, we will be rewarding great attendance. The National average for Primary schools is 96%, we will be rewarding any child whose attendance is over 96% by July. There will also be additional rewards for children who have 100% attendance for the year. Your child will receive a certificate each half term based on their attendance so you can keep track of which reward your child is working towards. We also want to reward our families so, if your child reaches 98% or above, they will be able to bring one member of their family along to the beach!

98% or
above

If your child has an attendance of 98% or above by July, then one member of your family and your child will be going on a day trip to the beach! This will be free for your child and a small charge for a family member!



If your child has an attendance between 96% - 97.9% above by July 2020 then your child will be either attend a disco or film afternoon in school.



97-97.9%

Why is attendance so important?

Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will hinder their learning. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure their child attends school regularly. Failure to do so may lead to legal prosecution under our spotlight programme.

Types of Absence

Every half-day absence from school has to be classified by school as **AUTHORISED** or **UNAUTHORISED**. This is why we always need to know why your child is not in school.

AUTHORISED absences are mornings or afternoons away from school for reasons such as illness, medical appointments or emergencies.

UNAUTHORISED absences are those which the school does not consider reasonable. This type of absence can lead to legal proceedings. Such as: unexplained absences, arriving late to school, day trips and holidays in term time. (Please see the office for more information on this).

How will I know if my child's attendance is causing concern?

If your child's attendance is below 95%, you will be asked to attend monthly meetings with members of the Leadership Team. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss your child's attendance and explore strategies which will help to improve it.

Persistent Absence

If your child's attendance falls **below 90%**, they are deemed to be a 'persistent absentee'. As a school, we will monitor children with persistent absence closely. We will provide pastoral support and seek external support as needed.

What can I do to support attendance?

Please bring your child to school EVERY DAY unless your child is too ill to attend. If they are ill, please take them to the doctors and bring a note into school if possible. If your child is feeling slightly unwell, please send them in and inform the teacher know and we will notify you immediately if we have any concerns.

Please ensure your child is on time. If they arrive late, (after 8.55am) this is an authorised absence.

If your child is absent, you must contact us as soon as possible on the first day of the absence by 9 am - please telephone the School Office on 0121 675 0618 or visit in person.

If your child is absent, we will telephone you if we haven't heard from you to find out why your child is not in school.

Being late for school

Being late for school has a huge impact on your child. It can leave them feeling stressed and worried and also means they are missing vital learning time. It is essential that our children learn the importance of being punctual as this is a valuable life skill.

You child will be classed as late if they arrive after 8.55am. The school gates will be closed and they will need to come through the main office. If they arrive after 9.30am, this is an unauthorised absence.



Persistent Lateness

If your child is late for school for a more than four sessions in a month, then you will be asked to attend a meeting with a member of the Leadership Team. The purpose of this meetings to discuss your child's needs and what strategies we can use to help you get your child to school on time.

Children **MUST** be collected promptly on time at the end of the day if you are going to be late the office needs to be informed by 3 pm. Where children are consistently picked up late, a meeting will be arranged with the parents.