

St. Nicholas CE Primary Academy

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Dear Parents / Carers of Year 5 pupils,

YEAR 5 PUPIL ATTENDANCE

School attendance is monitored carefully throughout the whole school from Reception to Year 6 to ensure that children are attending regularly. **However, it has been noted that the overall attendance of pupils in both Year 5 classes is well below that of government and school expectations and this is a concern.**

Year 5 is a very important year for children, as many will be preparing for events such as the 11+ PESE Tests and books are used to support appeal decisions. For children to achieve properly in Year 5, it is vital that they are in school every day to enable good learning and progress to be made. Regular attendance will ensure that all of our pupils have the greatest opportunity to achieve nationally expected standards (or indeed at greater depth in these standards) in order to prepare them to be successful with the next phase of their education at secondary school.

Of course from time to time it will be necessary to keep your children home due to sickness. When this is the case, please contact the school as soon as you have made the decision to not send your child in. Whenever possible, we would ask for you to please try and arrange appointments with a doctor, dentist, optician or hospital out of school time. Please also be aware that we are more than happy to administer medicines such as anti-biotics to support your child.

In addition, we would respectfully remind parents that holidays must not be taken during term time. Government legislation prevents schools from granting leave of absence unless there are 'exceptional circumstances'. Holidays are not exceptional.

For any further information, please refer to a copy of our school 'Attendance Policy' which can be found on the school website

We ask for your support in ensuring your child attends regularly. If you feel we can be of help, do not hesitate to contact either of us at school.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Dale
Headteacher