



Berkeley Primary School

Attendance Matters

28th March 2024



Every minute your child is in school is a learning minute and we believe these are too precious to waste. Attendance is a high priority at Berkeley Primary School and our target this year is to achieve 97% attendance - we need your help with this. We are still a way off this with our attendance currently at 95.2%.

A big thank you to the majority of parents who make sure their children attend school regularly and on time.

We have recently done an attendance review and letters will be sent out for any children we have concerns about. Please act on this and work to improve your child's attendance. Always talk to school staff and ask for help if you need it.

Every Child • Every Chance • Every Day

Our school motto includes the importance of attendance. **Every child** has the right to a good education, **Every** school **Day**, which gives them **Every Chance** to thrive - both educationally and socially. Our children need this strong foundation.

Frequent absence or arriving late can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning and can seriously disadvantage your child in adult life.

REMEMBER: Education gives choices.

Updated Attendance Certificates will be sent out with school reports at the beginning of May, check the chart below.

Check this chart to see how your child's attendance compares:

Attendance during one school year	equals this number of days absent	which is approximately this many weeks absent	which means this number of lessons missed
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

BE ON TIME - school starts at 8:45am

Children from Reception to Year 6 should be in their classroom ready to learn at 8:45am. Even 8:46am is late! The classroom doors open at 8:40am and this gives children plenty of time to be on with their morning learning at 8:45am. Our children tell us they hate being late, missing the first few minutes of the day and it makes them feel unsettled for the rest of the day. So, set your alarm for 10 minutes earlier and get in on time please.

NO HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the current law does not give parents any entitlement to take their children out of school for a holiday during term time. All parents will be fined (even in split families as both have parental responsibility to ensure your child comes to school). Please see the attached Penalty Notice Leaflet from the Local Authority and **DO NOT** book holidays in term time.