



Attendance Matters

A Message from our Executive Headteacher – Mr White

Welcome back to our children, parents, and families.

At the start of this new year, we would like to take the opportunity to raise awareness around the importance of attending school regularly. This attendance information aims to provide families with help and support so that each child will have high attendance in school. Throughout your child’s time at Holly Primary School, their attendance will be monitored regularly. If children are not in school regularly, then they will miss out on the knowledge and skills needed to go on to be successful in future education, employment and in life.

Any time your child is not in school (authorised, unauthorised, medical appointments) they have to be marked on the register as not in school. Any missing register marks for any reason will affect your child’s attendance. Therefore, we ask that appointments are made outside of school hours.

We understand that some find it harder than others to attend school and therefore at all stages, we aim to work with pupils and parents to remove any barriers by continuing our strong and trusting relationships and by working together to put the right support in place. However, the message is going to remain the same...

Attendance is Everyone’s Responsibility, Attendance Matters and Punctuality Counts.

Attendance Statistics

Attendance is causing serious concern 90% and below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An attendance level of 90% means that, on average, half a day per week is lost. This equates to 4 weeks in a year. Studies show that pupils who attend at 90% or below are highly unlikely to achieve their full potential.
Attendance is causing some concern 90-96%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking your child out of school for a two-week holiday during term time immediately reduces their attendance to 95% for the year.
Attendance is good - over 96%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Studies show that pupils who have full attendance are more likely to make excellent and rapid progress in their learning.

Research has shown associations between regular absence from school and a number of harms:

This includes:

- Education: children who are not in school miss their work and fall behind. This is likely to result in them not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths.
- Friendship struggles: Children who are not in school miss out on the social side of school life. Poor attendance can affect children’s ability to make and keep friendships; a vital part of growing up.
- Employment: Children with low attendance in school are less likely to secure high income and professional employment.
- Physical health: Children who are regularly absent from school have increased likeliness to develop physical illnesses.
- Mental health: Children who are regularly absent from school have increased likeliness to suffer from mental health issues.



HOLLY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Happiness Pride Commitment

Executive Headteacher: Mr Duncan White Head of School: Miss Sophie McGuiness

Our Managing Attendance Approaches – all shared with parents and carers.

At Holly Primary School we also aim to celebrate and praise our children at every opportunity. See below for a range of prizes each child and class can win!

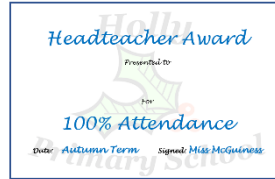
Weekly class award for highest attendance.



£25 class reward – most weekly certificates over the half term.



Termly 100% attendance certificates and badges.



Termly certificates for improved attendance.



Termly family prize draw for children with 100% attendance!



Working Together at Holly Primary School to Raise Attendance

Phone calls home

If there is an unexpected absence of a child, our admin team will complete initial phone calls to investigate why a child is absent from school. The purpose of this is to safeguard each and every child and to promote a culture of high attendance in school.

Monitoring and assessment

Our senior leadership team monitors each child's attendance closely. If a child is not meeting expectation for attendance, then our admin team will contact you to ensure the correct support is in place. The parents of children identified as a cause for concern, will begin to receive our staged response letters.

School Yammer & Scholar

As a school, we celebrate and praise our children and classes for their high attendance in school. This is celebrated through our school communication app – Yammer. Through the Scholarpack app you are able to monitor your child's attendance on a daily basis.

Learning review meetings

Your child's attendance will be discussed with your class teacher at our regular learning review meetings

Early Help & family support

Our senior leadership team will explore how we can offer support to families with poor attendance including the possibility of Early Help and other wider agency support.

Weekly staff briefings & meetings

Attendance is a focus in school. As a staff team, we share class and whole school attendance data daily. Our weekly briefings are great opportunities to communicate the importance of attendance to all staff and to celebrate excellent attendance outcomes.