

Attendance Matters- A Guide for Parents

The government and Windmill Academy are committed to reducing absence we expect every pupil to maintain an attendance level 96% or above.

Department of Education class persistent absence percentage from 10% and below.

What does this mean? Any child whose attendance is 90% or lower, at any point in the year will be classed as being persistently absent.

If your child is persistently absent or late could be referred to the local authority's Education Welfare team and you may be at risk of a penalty notice or prosecution.

Penalty Notices are set at £60 if paid by 21 days and £120 if paid between 22 and 28 days. Any legal proceedings would relate to section 444(1) or 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996.

Absence is not allowed for:

Holidays / Forgetting school dates / Oversleeping / A family member being ill

If your child has an appointment they must still attend school before or after the appointment, they should not miss at whole school day. School will only authorise the time for the appointment and travel time.



Remember, we will help and support you in any way we can to help your child attend school regularly and on time!

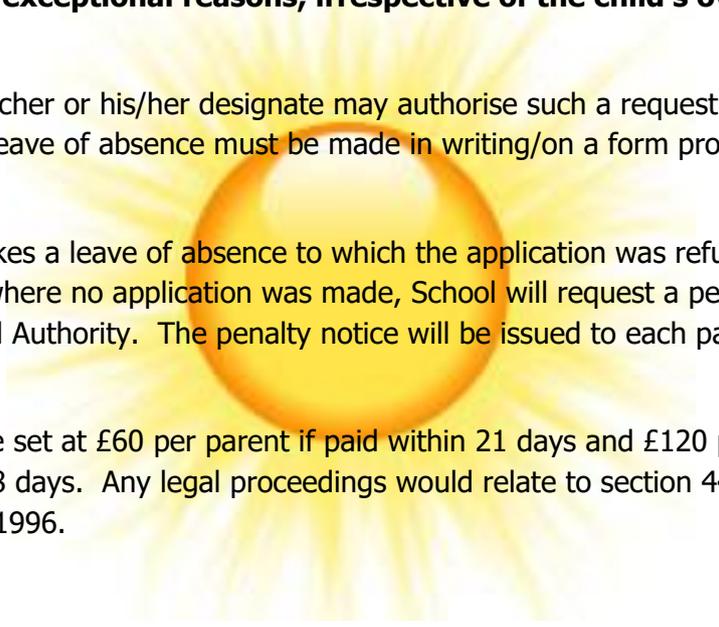
Holidays

It is a rule of this school that a leave of absence shall not be granted in term time unless there are exceptional reasons, irrespective of the child's overall attendance.

Only the Head Teacher or his/her designate may authorise such a request and all applications for a leave of absence must be made in writing/on a form provided by the school.

Where a parent takes a leave of absence to which the application was refused or takes a leave of absence where no application was made, School will request a penalty notice to be issued by the Local Authority. The penalty notice will be issued to each parent of the individual child.

Penalty Notices are set at £60 per parent if paid within 21 days and £120 per parent if paid between 22 and 28 days. Any legal proceedings would relate to section 444 or 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996.



Why does attendance matter?

If your child attends school for less than 95% of the time it has been proven their education will be significantly affected.

Attending school on a regular basis is the key to your child doing well at school and will set them up with good habits for later in life and the working world. Windmill Academy is a fantastic school offering your child many exciting opportunities and experiences to enhance their learning –**It will also give your child the opportunity to:**

Make lots of friends and feel included

Learn new things and develop many skills

Increase self-confidence and self esteem

Improve social skills

Achieve their potential and fulfil their aspirations.

Did you know we have a dedicated family liaison and attendance worker who can help you overcome any problems you might have with your children's attendance? Her name is Melanie Jago – you will have seen her at the school on Tuesday morning's and all day each Thursday.

If you would like to talk to Melanie about any attendance issues here is her number: 07808 528065 her number is also available on WhatsApp. Alternatively her email address is melanie.jago@leadacademytrust.co.uk.

You can always talk to the Headteacher, Ms Shrestha, or your child's class teacher.

If your child is absent from school because they are ill you must:

Phone the school office by 9:30am to tell us why they are away or send a text.



Please provide medical evidence if you have been to the doctor (appointment card or show the prescription at the school office).

School Phone Number: 0115 915 0195

School Text Number: 0115 8240381

If your child is away and we don't know why we will contact you immediately and may come out to visit you at home.

Miss School, Miss Out!