

BROOMWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Together we believe. Together we achieve

Friday 11th March 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are asking for your support in improving our whole school attendance and punctuality. We understand that during the COVID pandemic it was difficult with children and families having to self isolate due to them or close contacts testing positive and that the past two years have been extremely challenging for all of us. However, now that the government have changed the self isolation rules regarding COVID (although we are aware that COVID has not just gone away), we need to be building back up to our previous high levels of attendance. This is for the sake of the children and the amount of lost learning they have experienced and for a sense of normality.

We have seen an improvement in attendance since we came back in February and this is extremely positive and we want to ensure that this continues. As a school we are doing everything we can to help support and encourage the children and their learning through intervention groups, school trips, visits to the theatre, a variety of afterschool clubs, TT Rockstars, outdoor learning, swimming lessons, music lessons, yoga lessons, pastoral care to name but a few.

This is why we need your support to ensure that children are coming to school and on time. We have noticed that there are patterns in some children's absences, or that we are not always informed of why a child is absent. School must be contacted **before 9am** every day to inform of a child's absence, otherwise it is marked as unauthorised absence. Trafford council monitors all unauthorised absences and persistent absences. Parents/carers could be fined for unauthorised or persistent absences.

Our school attendance target is 96% for pupils. Parents of children who are under this target will be contacted by letter and in some circumstances asked to attend a meeting with the leadership team.

It is important that you communicate to your children how important it is to attend school. You can keep up to date with your child's attendance to know if they are at risk of persistent absence by asking the office staff for a copy of their attendance.

**A whole year has 365 days
A school year has only 190 days
This leaves:**

175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, birthdays treats, appointments

90% attendance is equal to 1 day off each fortnight!

100% Attendance - Very Good - Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.

90% Worrying - Less chance of success. Makes it harder for your child to make progress.

80% Serious concerns -Your child will find it difficult to make progress, learn new skills and build social networks

Achieve believe and succeed for a brighter future.



Punctuality is just as important as attendance at school. If a child is late for school they are not only missing learning, they are also disrupting the whole class and their learning. As an adult, we know how embarrassing it can be arriving late for a meeting, or appointment etc. This is the same for your child and can make them upset or anxious, particularly if they have to walk into assembly late. Children do not like being late for school, especially when they have to sign in through the office and not line up with their class mates in the playground.

Being late for school does have an impact on your child's learning:

**Number of minutes later per day
over a school year**

**Approximate equivalent number of
days lost in learning**

5 minutes	3 days
10 minutes	6.5 days
15 minutes	10 days
20 minutes`	13 days

We want to help and support families to get their children to attend school and attend school on time:

- Prepare everything you/your child/ren need for school the night before (packed lunch/PE kits/swimming kits/reading records)
- Have a consistent bed time routine for your child
- Minimise their device use at bedtime so your child has a good night's sleep
- Ensure they go to bed at a reasonable time so they are not too tired to get up in the morning
- Set an alarm to allow plenty of time for a morning routine and getting to school on time.

Please note that if you ever want to appeal a place for your child's high school place, attendance and punctuality is one of the things that the high schools will want to look at.

We do appreciate that illness in children is inevitable, as is traffic, late buses, etc. However, as a head, I have a duty to ensure children attend school regularly, as even a week's absence impacts massively on learning.

We will be starting up our individual attendance awards as well as our weekly class attendance award. Broomwood postcards are also being sent out to pupils were we have seen a great improvement in their attendance and punctuality. We are pleased to inform that we have already sent out a number of these.

As always, thank you for your help and support and I am sure that together we can make a difference.

Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Owen.
Head Teacher



Good Attendance means...

Being in school at least 97% of the time or 184 to 190 days

Remember

Your education is important - don't miss out!

Did you know?

A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance a child can achieve is **94.7%**



Well done

I'm concerned

Seriously worried

A good attendance gives you the best chance for success

A poor attendance gives you less chance of success

Very poor attendance has a serious impact and reduces life chances

There are **365** days in a calendar year

175 days are **not** spent at school*

*So there's plenty of time for shopping, holidays and appointments!

Did you know?

When pupils attend school they:

- ✔ Can achieve their full potential
- ✔ Have better career prospects
- ✔ Learn how to look after themselves and be healthy
- ✔ Grow in confidence
- ✔ Keep up with work and homework
- ✔ Make new friends