



Attendance at Wheatley Hill – Essential Information

Our school and the Local Authority is taking poor attendance very seriously and these are the guidelines that schools must work within.

Our school has an attendance target of a minimum of 96% for each pupil. Although there may be genuine reasons for your child's absences, please be aware that irregular school attendance affects a child's academic progress.

Stage 1 – If your child(rens) attendance has been identified as falling below 95% then we would make you aware of this as Durham County Council currently has an attendance target of 96%. A monitoring letter is an initial offer of any support that we can make to better help improve pupil attendance.

Stage 2 – If your child(rens) attendance continues to decline then you will be invited for an Attendance Meeting in school, which could eventually progress to a referral being made to the Durham County Attendance Improvement Team.

Stage 3 – If your child(rens) attendance continues to be identified as at risk due to the nature and frequency of their absences. The Head Teacher will request that medical evidence is provided for any absences due to ill health so that we can better support and improve your child(rens) school attendance.

Please Note - Failure to provide this evidence will result in absences being recorded as unauthorised and a referral may be made to the Local Authority. Any subsequent absences without medical proof will be marked as unauthorised. If a child receives 10 sessions (equal to 5 days) of unauthorised absences, it will result in further action from the local authority, and possibly legal action.

If you require any further information or would like to discuss school attendance further then please speak to the school office.

"At Wheatley Hill Primary School, we take the attendance of all children very seriously and the governing body fully supports the actions of the school to improve pupil attendance. We make every effort to support our families under exceptional circumstances but we will continue to challenge unexplained poor attendance. Ultimately, we want what is best for your child and being a regular school attendee is critical if a child is to achieve their full potential."

Jayne Dinsdale (Chair of School Governing Body)

