## ATTENDANCE AND THE LAW

Parents and carers have a legal duty to ensure that their children of compulsory school age receive a suitable full-time education. It is vital they ensure their child's regular and punctual attendance at school.

The current school target for attendance is 96%. You will be breaking the law if you do not ensure your child attends school regularly if there are no good reasons for missing school.

190 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH SCHOOL YEAR (0 DAYS ABSENCE)	180 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH SCHOOL YEAR (10 DAYS ABSENCE)	171 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH SCHOOL YEAR (19 DAYS ABSENCE)	161 school days in each school year (29 days absence)	152 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH SCHOOL YEAR (38 DAYS ABSENCE)	143 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH SCHOOL YEAR (47 DAYS ABSENCE)
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
GOOD EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE		WORRYING POOR ATTENDANCE		SERIOUS CONCERN VERY POOR ATTENDANCE	

There are 175 nonschool days a year – that's 175 days to spend on family time, appointments, holidays, shopping and everything else.

## WHAT CAN PARENTS/CARERS DO?

- Ensure your child attends school every day and on time
- If your child is not well enough to attend contact the school office by 8.30am on each day of absence
- Have everything ready the night before to avoid delays in the morning
- Have good bedtime and morning routines with set times for going to bed and waking up
- Try to make routine dental and medical appointments outside school times
- Take family holidays during the school holidays, we are unable to authorise term time holidays
- Contact us immediately if you need help or support with your child's attendance and punctuality

## **HOW WE WILL SUPPORT GOOD ATTENDANCE**

- We will communicate with you as soon as your child's attendance falls below 96%. This may be by phone or letter
- If attendance continues to fall we will contact you again and arrange a meeting in school to remove barriers to attendance and agree the support needed to improve your child's attendance