

The Willows

Greatbatch Avenue, Penkhull, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 7JY



Primary School

Explore - Dream - Discover

Web: www.willowsprimary.com

Email: office@willowsprimary.com

Tel: (01782) 233280 Fax: (01782) 233282

Head Teacher: Mrs S Thursfield

Deputy Head: Mrs C Beltran

Assistant Head: Mrs A Ball

Attendance Newsletter – Autumn 2023

Our School Attendance target is 97%



Attendance
Matters

Welcome

Welcome to our first attendance newsletter of the year; the aim is to promote the importance of attendance across The Willows Primary School community. It is really important that we continue to work together to do all we can to prioritise the children's attendance at school so they can enjoy their learning and socialising with their peers.

We are currently reviewing the first four weeks of the school registers and parents will be informed if their child has attendance under 93%. This letter can be concerning for parents, as even a short absence so early in the year will appear to have a big impact. It is important that we share children's attendance at this stage so that we are able to quickly support families if children are not attending as they should and we can also help to establish good habits for the coming year. Please be assured that the large majority of children will show improvement as the school year progresses and no further contact will be needed.

It is important to note that the attendance percentage does not differentiate between authorised absence due to illness etc. but will reflect the total educational time a child has missed. We do not expect children to attend if they are really poorly but are happy to support them with medicine to make them more comfortable if they have a minor illness – please visit the School Office if you need to provide paracetamol or other medication.

To Report Absence

Inform the School Office before 8.45am by either;

- Calling 01782 233280, Option 1 to leave a message
- Message the Office via Class Dojo. Please don't just message the teacher in case they aren't able to pass the message to us
- Email attendance@willowsprimary.com



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Our school target and progress

You will see our attendance target is 97% this year – last year we ended on 94.5% which shows we are right to continue to focus on attendance. After four weeks we currently stand at a whole school average of 95.9% so are making good progress already!

Attendance Matters

0 days off school in a year 0 lessons missed	100%	Perfect attendance
2 days off school in a year 10 lessons missed	99%	Excellent attendance
5 days off school in a year 25 lessons missed	97%	Good attendance
10 days off school in a year 50 lessons missed	95%	Slightly below average attendance
14 days off school in a year 70 lessons missed	93%	Poor attendance
20 days off school in a year 100 lessons missed	90%	Very poor attendance

90% in a test is a great score, but 90% attendance is very poor. If your child's attendance is 90% or less it will seriously damage their chances in school and in life. With children missing so much school due to lockdown it is even more important than ever that their attendance is good. Every day really matters. Help your child by making sure they attend school.

Working Together

We will be working with families to keep you updated on your child's attendance by sending out letters at key points and you may be invited into school to discuss ways we can help support attendance. If you have any questions or need any help please drop into the School Office or email me at arudge@willowsprimary.com.

Our designated Education Welfare Officer is Mrs Inskip-Clarkson and she will be visiting school on Wednesday 4th October if you would like to meet with her to access any support regarding attendance or lateness to school

Kind Regards

Mrs Rudge

