



# TIBBERTON CE FIRST SCHOOL HINDLIP CE FIRST SCHOOL

Exec. Headteacher: Mr A Gromski BA Hons PGCE

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## Re: Attendance

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to stress the importance of good school attendance for your child. As reflected by the latest guidance from the Department for Education (DFE), regular attendance at school is crucial for a child's academic progress and overall well-being. As you are aware, it is your statutory obligation to ensure that your child attends school regularly and punctually.

As a school federation, we greatly appreciate that our families work extremely hard to support good attendance.

Absences from school, particularly where absence falls below 95%, have been shown to have a significant impact on a child's education. They will miss out on valuable learning opportunities and fall behind their peers. Furthermore, persistent absence (attendance below 90%) from school can also have a negative impact on your child's social development and future prospects. Research shows that children who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve higher grades, go on to further education, and secure good employment in the future.

To meet our obligations in supporting the best possible attendance in our school we review attendance each half term. In the first instances, those children falling below 95% attendance will receive a letter to highlight attendance issues. For those families where attendance does not improve, parents will be invited to a meeting to discuss attendance.

We understand that there may be occasional circumstances where your child may need to be absent from school. However, I would like to remind you of the importance of ensuring that absences are kept to a minimum, and that any absences are authorised by the school in advance whenever possible.

Leave in term time will only be granted in *exceptional* circumstances. We really are aware of the financial strains upon our families at the moment, which make the option of leave in term time increasingly attractive, however, please think carefully before taking children out of school on holiday. We have seen the negative impact of missed education over the last few years and school really is the best place for the children to be.

We are very aware that judging pupil illness, whether children can attend when feeling poorly, can be difficult. I hope the recent letter about illness will help when you are making this decision. Last year seasonal flu and other seasonal respiratory illnesses took a very firm hold in our schools, both with pupils and staff. We really appreciated how all our families worked with us and trusted us at this time.

Thank you for your support in helping manage illness and in supporting good attendance in our schools. If you have any concerns or questions about your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Gromski

Executive Headteacher

