



# ESKDALE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MONITORING

**When is 90% not good enough? When it is your attendance score! Miss school and you miss out!**

Your child's attendance level will be measured against the following criteria and support offered as appropriate:

**96 – 100% Attendance** - Excellent achievement - on track to achieve social and academic success.

**92.1 – 95.9% Attendance** - Good achievement – keep on track to achieve social and academic success.

**Below 92% Attendance** - Your child's pastoral team will monitor absence on a daily basis and call home when concerned. Contact home will be made where appropriate to offer guidance and support to encourage attendance levels to improve.

**Below 90% Attendance** - At risk of persistent absence from school will be issued with a request for parents to attend a meeting with the Pastoral Team. Strategies to improve attendance levels will be agreed & attendance targets formally issued.

Below 90% Attendance **Persistent Absence** from school. *Medical evidence may be asked for to support absence from school for levels below 90%.*

## **Attendance below 90%:**

Falling attendance levels without agreement of school will be referred to the Local Authority which may lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to parents. Support options can often ensure issues are resolved quickly enabling attendance levels to remain high so we ask that all parents engage with school procedures and support offered at all times.

Attendance at school is our shared responsibility to ensure every child makes the very most of their education and opportunities on offer. Please support us by sending your child into school every day possible.

## **Before you keep your child off school:**

A large proportion of student absence is due to coughs, colds, headaches, minor complaints and injuries. We would ask you to consider sending in a note excusing your child from certain activities if needed, or allowing appropriate medication to be taken rather than keeping them off school for the whole day and missing out on five periods of academic learning. Please email [post@eskdale-school.co.uk](mailto:post@eskdale-school.co.uk) or ring 01947 602856 for all medical related issues. Staff will ensure they keep in touch should your child be too unwell to stay in school. A phone call home will be made by staff to discuss any areas of concern.

## **Lateness:**

When a student is late to school it can seriously impact their emotional and academic wellbeing. It can also impact those students around them if a teacher has to interrupt a lesson to receive a late student. We track all students who are: **'Late to school'** - before formal registration has closed **'Late'** – after formal registration has closed.

Pastoral teams will support all families who are struggling to get children to school on time.

We ask that families engage in these plans with staff as we also have a legal obligation to refer those students who are consistently late to school through the same pathways as non attenders.

### **What should you do?**

Ensure your child attends school every day and on time. Report any absence including medical appointments or reasons for late entry to school by email – [post@eskdale-school.co.uk](mailto:post@eskdale-school.co.uk) or telephone 01947 602856 before 9:00am on each day of absence. For longer term absence please call the required pastoral team to discuss. Please ensure medical and dental appointments are made outside of school time where possible. Contact us immediately if you are concerned about your child's attendance in school. Recognise, praise and reward good attendance in school. Please support Eskdale School to ensure punctuality and attendance are excellent. Communicate with your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year with any concerns however small you may feel this is.

### **What should your child do?**

Aim for 100% attendance every day. Be on time to registration and ALL lessons. Let their class teacher/tutor know if there are problems affecting their attendance at school.

### **What we will do:**

We will monitor your child's attendance and lateness on a daily basis. We will contact you by text and/or email whenever your child is absent without a reason or fails to register. We will support and guide you to ensure excellent attendance levels are maintained in school, to ensure your child reaches their full social and academic potential. We will impose sanctions on students who are late to school or truant. We will refer to the Local Authority for support when needed. This may result in a 50-day Legal Attendance Target or a Fixed Penalty notice being issued.

### **Legal position:**

Under Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 parents and carers are under a positive duty, to ensure that a child receives an efficient and fulltime education either by regular attendance at school or otherwise. The law makes it clear that only school can authorise an absence and has no obligation to do so. This applies even when we have been notified of the reason for absence.

### **The bigger picture:**

There is a clear and researched link between attendance and achievement in school. Whenever a young person misses school through illness, holiday or truancy they miss out on important learning opportunities. It is extremely difficult to catch up on work missed and social development can be affected.

95% attendance = 9 school days missed per year

90% attendance = half a day absent per week = 18 days per year

85% attendance = 5 lessons missed per week

80% attendance = 1 full day absence per week = 24 lessons missed per month

**17 days absence between year 7 – 11 = 1 GCSE grade reduction**