

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

We know that good attendance is the key to successful schooling and we believe our pupils can be amongst the best. Although we aim for 100% attendance, each year we set a target for attendance and this is used to compare us to other schools nationally.

Our current attendance target is 97%



School Attendance Matters

Blossom Federation

Daubenev, Sebright and Lauriston



Parent's Guide

HOW PARENT'S CAN HELP -

- Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for a school day ahead.
- Make sure your child arrives at school on time - not late.
- Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the rules.
- Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness - this should be followed up with a written note when your child returns to school.
- Take family holiday outside term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work.
- Attend parent evenings and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievement at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to control difficult or challenging behavior.
- Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school - staff are there to help and will be supportive.



Do not be afraid to ask for help if a problem arises.



WHY ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL IS SO IMPORTANT -

We expect every child to attend school regularly and maintain a pattern of good attendance throughout their school career.

Excellent attendance at school is important to allow a child or young person to fulfill their potential.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable

Below are just some key reasons why it is so important children attend school:

- To learn.
- To have fun.
- To make new friends.
- To experience new things in life.
- To develop awareness of other cultures, religions, ethnicity and gender differences.
- To achieve.
- To gain qualifications.
- To develop new skills.
- To build confidence and self-esteem.



Give your child the best start in life – every school day counts.

Miss School - Miss Out!!

FAMILY HOLIDAYS-

Our policy states:

In order to support your child's learning and ensure that routines are not disrupted unnecessarily, we do not allow holidays during term time. Absences, where parents take children without prior authorisation will be recorded as unauthorised. If you do have to take your child on an unforeseen trip please complete a request for a holiday form. These are available from the school. It will then be at the Executive Head's discretion whether the holiday request will be authorised.

Only the Executive Head Teacher may grant leave in term time where the circumstances are exceptional, for example:

- death of parent or sibling of the pupil
- life threatening or critical illness of parent or sibling of the pupil
- parent recuperation and convalescence from critical illness or surgery (leave request to be made within 6 months of recovery and medical evidence required)

Family emergencies need careful consideration. It is not always in the best interest of the child, nor appropriate for them to miss school for family emergencies that are being dealt with by adult family members. Being at school, friendships and support from staff can provide children with stability and care during difficult times. The routine of school can provide a safe and familiar background during times of uncertainty. If you have exceptional circumstances, which have led you to request leave in term time for your child/children, please complete the required form, which you can obtain from the office.

The Executive Head Teacher will then make a decision, on whether or not the leave can be lawfully authorised and will do so only if there is a genuine, exceptional and urgent reason for a child to be absent during term time. Penalty Notices If a child is taken out of school without the Executive Head teacher's authorisation, it will be recorded as unauthorised absence. This may lead to the issuing of a penalty notice and legal action being taken.

IS IT ALRIGHT FOR A CHILD TO BE OFF SCHOOL?

Your child can be off school if:

- They are ill.
- They are attending a hospital appointment.
- If they are involved in an activity and the school agrees in advance.
- Family bereavement
- There is a crisis or serious difficulty at home.
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As long as you have informed the school of reason why your child is off, and the school is satisfied that this is a valid reason, these would be called authorised absences.



What should I do if my child is anxious or worried about going to school?

Your child has a right to an education and to be safe and happy at school. But sometimes children and young people can be anxious or worried about going to school due to many possible reasons.

You may feel letting your child stay off school is an effective option, but unfortunately, this will not help a solution. It's important to talk to the school if this kind of problem arises. Please contact Mrs. Bird to discuss any attendance concerns.

**Key
Point**

Avoid taking family holidays during the school term.