

Mersey Park Primary School



Attendance Officers' Advice Leaflet for Children

Why is attendance important?

Being in school every day gives us the best possible start for the rest of our life.

We will learn new facts and skills and make friends, which will help us to be happy and confident people.

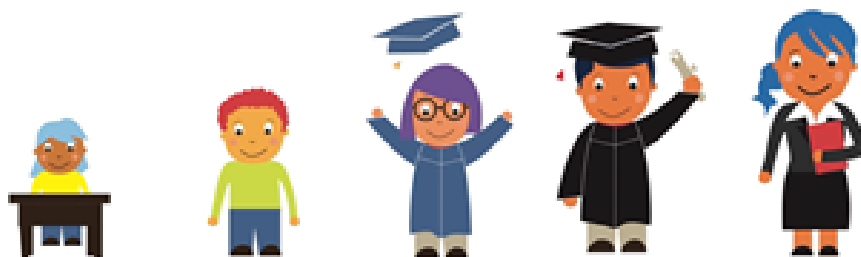
Why do we need to come to school?

- To learn new things.
- Being part of a group helps us to get on well with others and to make friends.
- Educational visits help us to learn about the big, wide world outside of school.
- Taking part in clubs and teams is fun and helps us to work together and get new skills.
- Being at school every day improves our chances of going to college or university or getting a job, when we get older.
- It is the law.



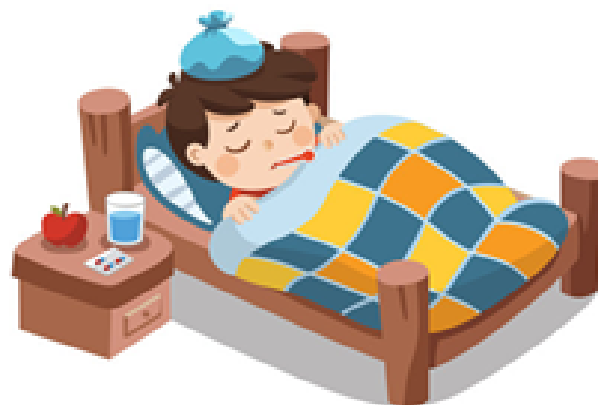
What happens if you don't come to school?

- We miss out on learning and might feel like we are falling behind the other children in our class.
- We will find it hard to do well in any tests.
- We might get bored at home and develop bad habits like not getting up early.
- We will miss out on seeing our friends.
- We might miss special events such as school trips, after school clubs and plays.
- We will miss out on attendance rewards and will make it harder for our class to earn them.
- Our parents/carers will receive letters from school and might be asked to come to school for a meeting to talk about how to improve our attendance.
- If we go on holiday during school time our parents/carers could get a fine.
- We are making it harder for ourselves to do well in high school, college, university and to get a good job.



What should your parents/carers do if you can't come to school?

- They should contact school to let staff know why you can't come in. They can either phone, send an email, let a member of staff know at the office or on the gate or contact school using a Parentapp.
- If you are really feeling unwell, they should think carefully whether you are too poorly to cope with the school day. School will send you home if your teacher thinks you are too poorly.



- If you are off for a few days, your parent/carer should keep school updated every day.
- If you need to be off school for a planned event that is coming up, like a hospital appointment, they should fill in a leave of absence request form at the school office or on the Parentapp.

What does school do to encourage us to be in school every day?

- Teachers plan interesting lessons and make our learning fun.
- Five for Five - each week one child who has been in school every day that week wins £5. If they have not been in all week the money rolls over to the next week.
- Attendance League – the class with the best attendance each week win Daley Bear for the following week.



- Stars in Jars – each day, every class with 100% attendance get a star for their jar. Once they have 10 stars they can choose a reward from a list.
- Potato Head Challenge - every class with 97% or better attendance get a part for their Potato Head each week. Once it is full they can choose a class reward such as non-uniform day.
- End of term raffle – if we have attendance of 97% or more we can win a £50 Smyths voucher.
- Attendance trophies – the classes with the best attendance and the most improved attendance each half term win a trophy and a £20 voucher to spend on something for their class, like new cushions for the reading corner.
- End of year prize draw – if we have attendance of 97% or more we can win one of the exciting raffle prizes.

Created by our Attendance Officers: Ivy, Luke, Jaylan, Luisa and Louie.