



Thames View Primary School
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06.10.21

Attendance

Dear Parents/Carers,

Regular attendance and punctuality at school is important to secure social and academic achievement. The Law says that children must receive an education between the school term after their 5th birthday and the last Friday in June in the school year they turn 16.

Parents and carers are responsible for making sure this happens. Irregular attendance will undermine a child's educational progress and their ability to socialise appropriately with their peers and adults.

DFE policy says: *'parents should ensure their children attend school regularly, arrive at school on time, properly dressed and in a condition to learn.'*

It is expected that our children attend school at least 96% of the academic year. Attendance targets are set by the local authority, but at Thames View we are always aiming for 97% to ensure our children secure the best possible life chances.

As we continue to return to pre-COVID practice, from after the October break we will be reintroducing:

- The presentation of 'Attendance Ted' to the Key Stage 1 class with the highest level of punctuality and attendance each week, during Celebration Assembly;
- Awarding a 'Freedom Friday', to the class with the highest weekly punctuality and attendance across the school, and/or those classes who achieve a figure of 97% and above with no recorded late arrivals. This means the whole class can wear their own clothes to school on the following Friday.

For the first Friday (5th November), the class with the highest Term 1 attendance will be awarded 'Freedom Friday' !

Of course, we appreciate that as well as the continued threat of COVID-19 infections there will be a rise in cases of other Autumn /Winter illnesses next term, but hope you appreciate our efforts to maintain good to outstanding attendance where possible.

If your child's attendance has already dipped below 70% without authorised / known reasons, you will shortly be receiving a letter asking that you meet with myself and our Pastoral Support Liaison Worker – Sarah Stevens, as a matter of priority.

Thank you once again for your support and understanding.

Kind regards

DL Daburn
Deanne Daburn
Head of School