

Here is John



He has 90% attendance. Sounds good doesn't it? But is it..?

90% ATTENDANCE = 1/2 DAY MISSED EVERY WEEK!

1 school year at 90% = 4 WHOLE WEEKS OF LESSONS MISSED!

John's learning and achievement will be severely affected.

Our school attendance aim is 96% - we need your help to achieve this and ensure your child reaches their potential.

We will inform you termly of your child's attendance and those falling below the level expected will be supported to improve their child's attendance.

Who can you speak to if there are problems which will affect their attendance?

In the first instance:

Stephanie Smith - Attendance officer

Marion Powell - Attendance Responsibility

OR

Lisa Waters - Head teacher

Claire Worrall - Deputy Head teacher

Sandra Ledwith - Deputy Head teacher

**Above all we want your child to be happy and successful at school and we believe that only by working in partnership with you, will this be at all possible.**

**Every child matters, every member of our community matters**



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

At John Bunyan we value good attendance. Regular attendance supports your child in making good progress.

Absence Line: 01376 321814

Attendance and punctuality are vital to ensure your child reaches their full potential whilst in our school.

### ***Our Expectations.***

We expect pupils to be in school by 8.55am ready to start learning.

### ***What are parental responsibilities?***

If your child is aged between 5 and 16, you must make sure he/ she attends school regularly and stays in school. This is the law. You can be taken to court for breaking this law (Section 444 of the Education Act 1996).

"Parents should ensure their children arrive at school on time, properly dressed and in a condition to learn."

This means pupils should wear school uniform, they must have their books, PE kit etc, and not be too tired, worried or hungry. Parents must also make sure that "pupils complete homework on time and follow the school rules about behaviour".

We all have days when we don't feel up to doing what we have to do. As parents it is important to teach our children the importance of going to school.



### ***Why is it important to be on time?***

Your child will be calm and ready to begin learning

- They will be ready for registration
- They will be ready for the start of the days lesson
- They will not miss out on the vital introduction to a lesson

Please remember that if your child is unwell we do not want them to come to school, we do understand that children become ill! If that is the case remember to phone the school office by 9.30am. If really unwell, your child will not want to learn but please consider if they really are too ill for a whole day at school. Often children recover quickly and they can still come into school if they feel better. **IT IS BETTER TO SEND YOUR CHILD IN LATE OR IN THE AFTERNOON THAN NOT AT ALL**

Children should not be in school:

- If they have anything contagious. The school will be able to advise you on when to return
- Until you have discussed any broken bones or fractures with the school

### ***What absences are not appropriate?***

You should not keep your child from school or allow him/her to be absent:

To go shopping or to visit relatives.

Because it's raining.

Because you got up late.

Because they don't want to go or you do not feel like accompanying them.

For family birthdays or to go on family outings.

Holidays in term time.

### ***Holidays in terms time***

As from 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2013 the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 have been amended. All references to family holidays and extended leave have been removed, together with the right for parents to apply for up to 10 days.

Therefore, the school will not be permitted to grant leave of absence during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

If the absence is not authorised and the holiday is taken the Education Welfare Service can issue penalty notices.