

## If your child is absent from school:

1. Please phone on the first day of absence leaving your child's name, class and reason for absence. This needs to be done every day your child is absent from school.
2. Messages may be left on the school's answer phone, sent via email or delivered in person.
3. We record all reported absences so a letter is not required.
4. If we have not heard from parents / carers by 9.30am with a reason for absence, we will ring all the contacts we have on file until contact is made.

**Do they really need to miss this day?**

## Punctuality is important!

Children hate being late for school. The school **doors open at 8.50am** and children are considered late if they arrive after 9.00am.

We have many support systems in place to enable every child be in school on time.

### Medical appointments

Whenever possible, medical and dental appointments should be made outside school hours or in the school holidays.

### Who is here to help?

#### School based support:

Mrs Nina Fowle

Family Support Worker

01933 276366

**If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please come and talk to us.**



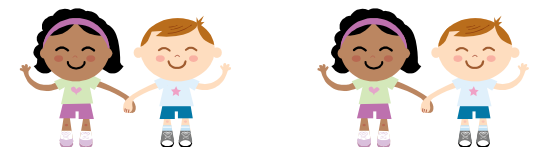
## An Attendance Guide for Parents, Carers and Children

### THE AVENUE INFANT SCHOOL

The Avenue  
Wellingborough  
Northants  
NN8 4ET

Tel 01933 276366

[head@theavenue-inf.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:head@theavenue-inf.northants-ecl.gov.uk)

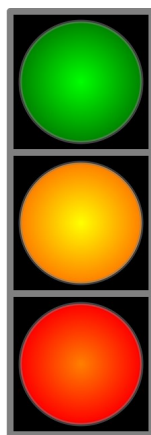


## Why is good attendance important?

Children will:

- ◆ Maintain a good standard of work
- ◆ Understand the lessons
- ◆ Achieve more highly
- ◆ Have secure friendships
- ◆ Feel more confident with their learning.

## How good is your child's attendance?



**100—96% Green**

**90—96% Amber**

**Below 90% Red  
(this is classed as a  
persistent absence)**

**EVERY CHILD'S ATTENDANCE  
IS EXPECTED TO BE ABOVE  
95%**

## The Avenue Infant School Policy

Schools are no longer able to authorise any leave of absence during term time unless they are 'exceptional circumstances'. Holidays are not considered exceptional circumstances so we are not able to authorise these.

### Penalties

Pupils with a large number of unauthorised absences are issued a fixed penalty notice of £60 per child per parent, increasing to £120 if not paid within 21 days. These penalties are issued by the Local Authority. Please note that a penalty notice is classed as an offence. The Local Authority may decide that further incidents will be immediately escalated to a prosecution.

**An absence will only be deemed authorised once you have received confirmation from the school.**

### **Persistent Absence**

From September 2015 the Government has changed the threshold for persistent absence from 85% to 90%. This means that children will be considered 'persistently absent' if their attendance falls below 90%. *For example, in a typical seven week term four days absence would mean attendance would be below 90% for the term.*

### **What can happen with poor attendance?**

Children may:

- Fall behind with work
- Achieve less
- Increased chance of friendship issues

### **How does attendance impact upon attainment?**

- 90% attendance in a year means over **70 lessons** have been missed
- 90% attendance every year means that more one year of schooling is missed

**Absent from school means absent from learning**