



Aston Hall
Junior & Infant School

ASTON HALL JUNIOR & INFANT SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: Mr S Holmes

Thursday 14th September 2023

Attendance / Absence

Dear parent/carer,

Last academic year, our school attendance was well below our target (97%) at just 95.1% for the year. Although this was above the national average, it is something we want to heavily focus on improving this year.

We have started extremely well, with our attendance to date at 98.8%.

A significant amount of this absence is due to term-time holidays. Last year, 173 pupils (58%) had at least one day absent due to unauthorised holiday leave (a total of 1040 days).

Only 109 pupils (36%) had 97%+ attendance last year and nearly 10% of pupils (29) missed on average of 1 day of school every 2 weeks.

As a whole school community, we must push for this to significantly improve this year.

I do appreciate that the pandemic over the past few years played a significant role in the reason for these holiday requests, with holidays that have had to be cancelled needing to be re-booked and, in some cases, taken before the end of the year due to parents' holiday entitlement or the risk of losing the holiday / money etc.

However, I am also very conscious that many children, not a small group, have missed out on a significant amount of learning again last year following three school years of very disruptive learning prior to this. Any time missed in school this year will only continue to impact negatively on this and compound any gaps in learning.

I therefore ask, that going forward into this new school year, that all parents/carers are mindful of our need to improve attendance. Here is a link to our attendance policy, which also clarifies the process and criteria for fixed penalty notices when taking holidays during term time: <https://tinyurl.com/23czvfb6> If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to get in touch and thank you for your continued support.

Mr Holmes
Headteacher

