

Promoting Positive Attendance

Did you know:

- ◆ Missing 1 day a week from school (80% attendance) can add up to 2 years missed school by the time your child leaves education
- ◆ Children only attend school for 190 days a year
- ◆ Only the Head teacher can authorise absence.
- ◆ Local Authorities are required to check pupils' attendance and issue penalty fines of £50 to parents of pupils who have 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 6 week period. Fines can also be issued for unauthorised holiday.
- ◆ Persistent unauthorised absence can lead to parents being prosecuted. Possible penalties include a fine or up to 3 months in prison.

Roseberry Primary School

R P S

Respect for all; **promoting** excellence; **successful** confident individuals



Promoting Good Attendance

A Guide for Parents/Carers

Dear Parents and Carers,

From January 2012, attendance became part of the new pupil behaviour and safety inspection focus and Ofsted will be inspecting and judging schools on attendance and punctuality.

Our school works with the Local Authority to monitor and evaluate attendance and punctuality, including termly register checks, home visits and implementation of attendance procedures.

What does attendance look like?

100% - excellent attendance. Your child is able to access all of their learning, form friendships and form good habits. Children with 100% attendance are usually more settled in school and are able to enjoy all areas of school life. They are more likely to gain better qualifications and potentially will earn more in the future.

95% - expected. Nationally, all schools and children are expected to achieve 95% attendance. Children are able to access most of their education and are still likely to achieve good qualification when they are older.

At 90% and below, a pupil is classed as a persistent absentee (as defined by the Government). At this stage parents may be called into school for a meeting to discuss concerns regarding attendance and a support plan put in place. A school education welfare officer will contact parents as soon as pattern emerges to avoid children reaching the persistent absentee level.

At 90% or below, attendance research shows that missing just 10% of school can result in children dropping a whole grade/level in achievement. 90% is equivalent to missing half a day at school each week—4 weeks of school in an academic year.

80% and below. Any child in Stockton who has attendance of 80% and below will be highlighted on a register check by an Attendance Officer, who will investigate why attendance is so low. At this point school can refer parents to the Local Authority Attendance Officer for legal attendance procedures.

Penalty Notice Procedures are followed in school for unauthorised absence and term time holidays.

How to help your child and promote good Attendance

