



## EVERYDAY COUNTS AT SCHOOL

- The early years are very important to the personal, social and emotional development of a child and set down the necessary foundations for learning.



- Interacting with children as part of their daily routine at home and at school is absolutely essential for their mental, social and emotional development. Today, a huge number of children are starting school at a series disadvantage because of underdeveloped communication difficulties.

- Children who attend well in the Foundation Stage socialise better and build up resilience in their friendships. Children who have poor attendance at school often have difficulties in their friendships; a best friend who is not in school is often replaced and this can sometimes appear to a parent as bullying.



- Parents are asked to contact the school on the first morning of absence.

- Children who attend regularly also build up more resistance to minor illnesses; some parents will find they need to raise the threshold a little as a child transfers from Nursery to Reception to meet the schools attendance expectations.



- Good attendance and time keeping is vital as the curriculum is designed to be progressive, new topics will often be introduced at the start of the week with the majority of teaching at the beginning of the day.



- Good bedtime routines and supporting children to organise their school things the night before is advised.

- Absence for whatever reason disadvantages children.



- The school expect 95% attendance. Where absence is frequent due to illness, the school might ask a parent for verification of illness in order to authorise further absence. The school might also offer the parent an appointment to discuss the matter with the School Health Visitor; in some cases a Care Plan is needed to assist the Welfare staff in meeting the child's medical needs whilst in school.

- It is important that parents keep good, open communication with the school and that a dialogue takes place where there are difficulties in bringing a child to school, this will help the school identify what might be helpful.

- Term time holiday, in keeping with government guidelines is not allowed.



- A child's long term academic success is strongly linked to attendance; GCSE results are directly related to prior attendance at primary school i.e. a child who has benefited from average or above average attendance at primary school stands a much better chance of reaching their potential at GCSE. Children who experience poor attendance at primary school almost always perform below their potential at GCSE.



- At high school, children who have had poor attendance during their school career are more likely to drop out; often due to underachievement and/or problematic friendships. They are 3-6 times more likely to become involved with the police either as perpetrators or victims of crime.

