



Welcome to Meadows Primary 'School Attendance Matters'. My name is Nikki Morrison and I am the Education Welfare Officer supporting Meadows Primary School with their attendance and welfare issues. I work with the school, families and pupils to promote and support good school attendance and to help resolve any issues that may be impacting on attendance and welfare at school.

Meadows Primary is committed to providing an excellent educational experience for all pupils. We believe that if pupils are to benefit from education, punctuality and good attendance are crucial. We will do all we can to ensure maximum attendance for all pupils. Any problems with punctuality and regular attendance will be identified and addressed as quickly as possible.

It is our policy to celebrate achievement and great attendance. Attendance is such an important factor in a successful school career. We actively promote and encourage 100% attendance for all our pupils. As a minimum we expect every child to have an attendance of at least 96%. Attendance consistently below this will affect your child's learning, progress and achievement.

A pupil's punctuality and regular attendance is a legal requirement, and failure of parents or carers to ensure this means that they may be guilty of an offence. If your child is absent you must inform the school on the first day of absence with reasons for their non-attendance and keep in contact with the school during the absence so that accurate records can be maintained. This will also enable us to assess any support that your child may need during their absence and on their return to school. I will be making regular visits to school and to homes where children are often absent from school, to discuss the reasons for this and to offer my support in improving attendance and timekeeping.

If you would like to talk to us about any aspect of your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact school staff or you can contact me on 07572 146344. We are all here to support you and your child.



10 TIPS TO MAKE GOING TO SCHOOL A BIT EASIER!

- 1 Help your child to get their school bag packed the night before, with everything they need.
- 2 Make sure their uniform is ready especially after the holidays or weekend.
- 3 Get them to bed at a reasonable time so they have a good night's sleep and encourage them to wind down and relax before bed – no noisy or exciting computer games or dvds!!
- 4 Set the alarm clock early enough to allow plenty of time to get ready properly.
- 5 Make sure they have some healthy breakfast and a drink before leaving home.
- 6 Set off early enough so they won't be late; punctuality is important.
- 7 Check to make they have everything they need — books, PE kit, dinner money, reply slips for school etc.
- 8 If your child is finding the work too difficult, speak to the teacher and ask for some help.
- 9 Talk to your child about what they did in school each day; be supportive and interested in their lessons, activities and friendship groups.
- 10 If you or your child are unhappy or worried about any aspect of school life, please contact the school straight away to discuss your concerns.



DID YOU KNOW....?

..... that if a pupil misses eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed **nearly a year** of education?!

Attendance

90% attendance = $\frac{1}{2}$ day missed every week!

1 school year at 90% = 4 whole weeks of lessons missed!

10 years at school at 90% = a year of school missed!

Getting to school on time

5 minutes late every day = 3 days lost each year!