

Attendance 2022-2023

13th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Attendance is always a focus at Oasis Academy Byron and our target for this year is 95.5% which is the attendance percentage we would like all children to aim for.

An attendance figure of 90% is considered as 'persistent absence' by the Department for Education, and although this figure may seem high, it represents 19 days of school missed in one academic year and can have a profound impact on learning.

To support your child's attendance, we will:

- Encourage all pupils to meet or exceed the school's target of 95.5%.
- Ensure all staff rigorously monitor attendance each week.
- Work with families and put positive support plans in place for students who are falling below the school's target.
- Contact parents if their child's attendance becomes a concern.
- Refer pupils to the Educational Welfare Officer so they can receive specialist attendance support and advice responding to illness.

We always encourage pupils to attend school, regardless of minor illness. Schools may not authorise your child's absence for a minor illness if they thought it was not necessary. i.e a runny nose or headache. With these symptoms, it is often the case that once a child has got in and settled in lessons, they are able to learn well and make it through the full school day.

When should I keep my child off school?

Your child should only be kept away from school due to illness if they:

1. Have an infectious illness which could spread to other people, e.g. flu/Coronavirus etc
2. Need care during school hours that cannot be carried out in school
3. Are so unwell that they are not able to cope with lessons

The NHS website has useful advice here: www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school.

If you are still unsure, contact:

- Your school
- A pharmacist or GP

If your child is suffering from any of the above points or is simply too unwell to attend school then please notify us by 8:15am, either by leaving a message on the school telephone line Tel no 0208 668 4877 or by emailing byron@oasisbyron.org with your child's full name, class and reason for absence.



Medical Appointments

Where possible, please make medical / dental appointments outside of school time and during holidays. We do understand that these appointments can be hard to come by and sometimes it is unavoidable that they are scheduled during school time, particularly in the case of hospital appointments. In these instances, children should, wherever possible, come into school before and/or after their appointment in order to maximise their learning time in school. Please email byron@oasisbyron.org with a record of the appointment (letter, screenshot of text appointment etc) to record against the absence.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

