



# Prenton Primary School



Believe to Achieve

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25<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Attendance Information** **Moments Matter. Attendance Counts.**

When a child attends a school this means that they should attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school.

This is essential for children to get the most out of their school experience. The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared with those with the lowest attendance.

**It has been shown that the first week of school in September sets up attendance throughout the year.** Evidence from the Children’s Commissioner Report shows that children who miss one of the first few days of school for unauthorised reasons are much more likely to miss long periods of their schooling than their peers who had attended.

Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health.

In school we work very hard to promote and support good attendance. We aspire to high standards of attendance and want to continue with a culture of children and parents wanting their children to be in school and ready to learn.

We monitor attendance rigorously in school and have a number of systems in place plus support from our Attendance Officer and the Local Authority. We look for patterns of attendance and hope to work with parents/carers when they are spotted.

It may be that we can work with families to facilitate support to overcome barriers outside.

Where absence persists and voluntary support is not engaged with that support can be formalised. If all avenues are exhausted this can result in enforcement.

If a child is absent from school and we do not receive a call we will call you and if we continue to try over a period of days and get no reply, this can result in the school submitting a ‘Child Missing in Education’ form to the Local Authority.

**If your child is unwell, please either telephone the school office and leave a message on the Absence line, speak to a member of the office team or leave a message via the Absence Reporting section of the Parentapp.**



We celebrate attendance in school with attendance bears, monthly prizes, best class attendance per week, our 5 for 5 golden envelope (in for 5 days and your name comes up you get a prize), plus termly attendance certificates and badges. We have displays promoting attendance in school.

We are aware that attendance is a continuous process of reviewing and updating messages, processes and strategies.

Schools cannot authorise holidays in term time unless they are very exceptional circumstances. The booking of holidays in term time can lead to fines. This is the case for all schools nationally.

We will always endeavour to promote good attendance and work with parents/carers to support improving attendance so that we can get the best outcomes for our children and to work in partnership with home to do this.

Yours sincerely,

**S.J.Lloyd (Mrs)**  
**Head teacher**