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Dear Parents and Carers,

As I am sure, you have will have seen on the media there is a lot of concern around children's attendance at school, particularly in the aftermath of Covid.

At Appleton, we have always prided ourselves on the excellent attendance rates that the children achieve throughout the year, in some years up to and beyond 96%. In recent weeks, however, we do seem to be slipping and we would like to have an added push to raise attendance and take pride in the achievement.

**One of the main reasons this is slipping is the amount of children arriving late, if children arrive after the registers are closed then this is recorded as an absence.**

It is also helpful if you make sure that if your child is not going to be in school for the day, you let the office know as soon as possible, otherwise they spend the morning ringing parents to see where the children are and why they are not attending school.

It is proven that good attendance does have a positive effect on children's attainment and progress, something that we are all aiming for. There has been research to show that if a child misses a day per week throughout their school life, it is the same as missing 2 years of schooling!

#### **Helpful hints to increase attendance –**

- Make appointments, where possible, outside school hours.
- If an appointment has to be within the school day, come to school first to be registered, leaving just before the appointment time and return to school for the next session (a morning and an afternoon are 2 different sessions).
- Set more than one alarm in the house to get up on time.
- Ask a friend or neighbour to be an attendance buddy so that they can take any other children to school if one child or adult is unwell.
- If a child is unwell, return to school as soon as they are better, even if that is the Friday.

We are confident that our attendance will increase, if we all work together to get children attending school regularly.

I have also included some information from the Local authority and from the government which you may find useful.

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs M Langton  
Headteacher



2022-2025

