



19.9.18

Dear Parent/Guardian

As you know, improving attendance is a huge priority at Northcote Primary School. We believe that every child should aim to attend school **EVERY DAY**. The National Target of 97% is a guide that we use as the minimum benchmark for attendance.

**96% = 8 days off in a school year**

**90% = 17 days off in a school year**

**85% = 29 days off in a school year**

**Half a day per week is equal to 4 weeks off in a school year**

**1 day per week equals 8 weeks off in a school year.**

Whilst we will be offering lots of incentives and support in school for attendance to improve (such as raffles, reward trips, extra-curricular clubs and the walking bus) we need your help!

- Please make sure that if your child has a medical appointment, they attend school for their mark (where possible).
- Only keep your child at home if they are very sick. If they come to school and are sick, they will be sent home during the day, but will have received their mark so will not be penalised.
- Make sure you inform the office by phoning 0151 284 1919 if your child is going to be absent.
- If you need support with getting your child into school, let us know! We work closely with education welfare, have a breakfast club on offer and can work with individual children to improve attitudes to attendance.
- Children who are absent more than 10% of the time (their attendance is below 90%) are classed as persistently absent. This is a safeguarding issue, if children are regularly absent from school we cannot confirm that they are safe. This year we will be making more referrals to social services regarding poor attendance where there is no genuine reason.

Many thanks,

Miss Gore