

BOURNE ABBEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Dear Parents/ Carers

We hope you have had a wonderful start to 2024. The children have come back from our Christmas break and settled beautifully back into the routines, eager to get stuck into their learning.

As previously mentioned at the beginning of the year, attendance at school is vital to ensure that the great wealth of learning and enrichment opportunities are not missed. Every day gives learning opportunities across the curriculum to help children reach their full academic potential. This is then further enhanced by our co-curriculum with a great variety of opportunities for children to develop their God-given talents, creativity and their character. Not a minute is wasted! We had a great start to the academic year in September; however, we have more recently noticed a steep decline. With your help and support we would like to see our attendance bounce back up to the previous levels seen in September and October.

With this in mind, and as we continue further into the winter months, we would like to remind you how important it is for your child to be in school. Please, whenever possible, do not book appointments/ holidays which will take your child out of school. The learning opportunities do not stop and when they are missed it is difficult for pupils to catch up. We do appreciate that there are times when children are too poorly to come to school and we would remind you to phone the school office to let us know if this is the case.

If you need any advice or support with your child's attendance, then please do not hesitate to contact us and we will do our best to work with you. Please also see the following link for NHS guidance "Is my child too ill for school?"

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Finally, the chart below shows what your child's attendance equates to in number of days missed - even at silver, that is 10 English lessons/phonics sessions, 10 maths lessons, science, RE, history, geography, music, art, PE, PSHE, time with friends, wow moments and enrichment missed - 10 days without teaching.

GOLD	Attendance is 97% and above Absent for less than 6 days in a year.
SILVER	Attendance is 95 - 97% Absent for less than 10 days in a year.
BRONZE	Attendance is 93 - 95% Missing up to 13 days a year.
RED	Attendance is 80 - 93% Missing up to 40 days a year! Or eight weeks!

WISE UP!	Attendance is below 80% Missing so much time from school means it will be almost impossible for your child to learn effectively.
SEVERE!	Attendance is below 50% Severely absent pupils are likely to need more intensive support across a range of partners. If all avenues of support have been facilitated but severe absence for unauthorised reasons remains it is likely to constitute neglect.

Thank you for your support...together we can help your children flourish, learn and progress.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S J Moore
Chief Executive Officer



Mr P Houghton
Acting Head of School