Attendance and Punctuality at St Sebastian's CE Primary School.

Our school attendance target is 96.5%.

Following the pandemic, we continue to make a pathway back to normal, it is essential that we build back up to our previous positive attendance rates.

Last academic year, our attendance was 93.9% for the whole school. We are working hard to improve this for 2022/23.

Acceptable reasons for absence

⇒ Illness such as fever, vomiting or diarrhoea– *Vomiting and diarrhoea require 48hrs absence.*

⇒ Vey heavy colds

⇒ Childhood diseases such as chicken pox, impetigo or scarlet fever.

Please note **'sick'** cannot be accepted as a reason and more details will be required.

Exceptional or special leave

Children may have one day's absence for an approved religious observance.

In other emergency, exceptional or special circumstances parents or carers must also make a request to the Headteacher for short periods of leave. Leave will only be authorised at the Headteacher's discretion.

In making the decision, the Headteacher will consider

⇒ The child's current attendance percentage

⇒ Previous application and absences

Documents are essential to support the application.

Attendance below 95% is a cause for concern and needs improvement. School will contact families to offer support.

90 per cent attendance means that your child is absent from lessons for the equivalent of one half day every week. Over five years this is the equivalent of about one half of a school year.

Attendance below 90% is regarded as persistent absenteeism. School will request a meeting to support families to improve attendance.

Permission for absence for a holiday cannot be given under any circumstances.

Holidays in term time cannot be authorised and may be subject to a fixed penalty notice. This could result in a fine of £60 per child absent AND per parent.

BE ON TIME FOR SCHOOL—Gates open at 8.40am and children must be in school ready to learn by 8.50am.

Being late means your child misses -

⇒ **Important social time**

⇒ **Maths fluency**

⇒ **Vital instructions for the first lesson**

⇒ **Starting the day calmly with the rest of their class.**

6 lates = 30 minutes missed which is the equivalent to a reading lesson.