

Godshill Primary School

At Godshill Primary School we monitor pupil attendance closely and follow the Isle of Wight Council Education Welfare Officer (EWO) guidance. The Department for Education now classifies 90% attendance as the threshold of 'Persistent Absence', a child falling below this threshold will be closely monitored with EWO involvement.

Good attendance has long been recognised as being fundamental to attainment. It has been shown that absence severely impacts a child's learning and leads to under-achievement. At Godshill we promote the value and importance of regular school attendance.

Our good attendance has always been praised by OFSTED and we obviously do not want these standards to drop, so as the New Year starts, we would like to remind you of the following:

- Holidays taken during term time cannot be authorised. Fixed Penalty Notices will be issued. Fixed Penalty fines are £60 per child, issued to each parent. This is raised to £120 if not paid within 21 days. If the fine is left unpaid after 28 days, the parents will be prosecuted under Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996. This is in line with all schools on the Isle of Wight.
- If a child has been sick they should be kept off school for 24 hours, however if they also have a stomach upset, please keep them off for 48 hours to avoid spreading the bug.
- If a child has a rash, they should be seen by a doctor and kept off school for the recommended period of time.
- We will need to see a doctor's letter for absences longer than 4 days.
- If you are unsure whether to send your child to school because they are 'off colour', please do send them in. Be reassured that if your child is ill at school you will be contacted immediately. More often than not children pick up when they are in school with their friends doing interesting activities.
- If you have made the decision to keep your child at home because they seemed unwell and then they suddenly perk up, please do bring them in to school.
- Doctor, hospital and dentist appointments should, whenever possible, be made for outside school hours or during holidays.

We hope this clarified matters for you. We do really appreciate your co-operation in helping us to maintain the high standards and reputation of Godshill School. Please do not hesitate to see me if you have any queries or concerns.

Mark Snow,

Interim Executive Headteacher.