

CDC/LDD

13 January 2017



Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to update all parents regarding Caldew School's Attendance Policy. The full Attendance Policy is available on the school website, under the Governors area.

Regular attendance at school is essential to ensure uninterrupted progress and to enable children to fulfil their potential. The attendance pattern for all children is monitored daily, with the school seeking to work actively with parents to ensure that regular attendance is maintained. The Department for Education has published data on their website that clearly shows the link between attendance and attainment. This highlights the fact that there will be an impact on your child's education and exam results if attendance is not consistently above 95% throughout their schooling.

Minor ailments, such as a headache or slight cold, are not acceptable reasons for failing to attend school. Repeated absences may require the school to request that you obtain medical evidence from your doctor's surgery or local pharmacy, as recommended by the Government.

I would also like to remind you that the law does not give any entitlement to parents to remove their child from school during term-time for the purpose of a holiday. Headteachers may only grant leave of absence where an application has been made in advance and the Headteacher considers that there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

We will be writing to you towards the end of each term with details of your child's attendance record. We are confident that you will be keen to work with us to ensure that your child meets the threshold requirements, since it is clear that this will have a positive effect on their learning.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

C Clarke

Mr Curtis Clarke
Associate Assistant Headteacher