

CDC/CRF

21 November 2022



Dear Parents/Carers

Our vision at Caldew School for attendance is that as a community we build a holistic culture of outstanding attendance through having high expectations that everyone understands attendance as a life skill underpinning education.

Regular attendance at school is essential to ensure uninterrupted progress and to enable children to be happy at school and achieve. The attendance pattern for all children is monitored weekly with the school seeking to work actively with parents/carers 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.

We would also like to remind you that the law does not give any entitlement to parents/carers 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.

As well as the weekly Caldew School Attendance Pen draw we are launching a whole school competition.

**Attendance Competition:**

- World Cup 2022 theme **20/11/22 – 18/12/22**
- Support your Form Team
- Investigate the culture of the country.
- Within each Year group the Form with the highest attendance each day will receive **3 points**.
- **3 points** will be awarded to Forms that have **100%** attendance each day.
- Improving Forms each week will receive **1 point**.
- The winning Form will win a **Trophy**.
- The students who have **100%** attendance over this period of time will win a **prize**.

Yours sincerely

*C Clarke*

Mr Curtis Clarke  
Head of Year 11