

Date: July 2024



# Appledore School Attendance Matters

Here to support you with attendance are:

Mr Cooper



Mrs McMorine



Mrs Bannister



Mrs Phillips



Mrs Goldsmith-Ryan



Current  
Whole School  
Attendance:  
95.7%

## Attendance Focus

### Data for June

Reception	95.8%
Year 1	93.9%
Year 2	96%
Year 3	96.4%
Year 4	94.3%
Year 5	94.7%
Year 6	96.4%

It is the Department of Education/Ofsted that dictate attendance below 95% is **poor** and that below 90% is 'persistent absenteeism'. The reasons for this have been made clear before; good attendance is vital for the success of pupils and their wellbeing.

### Questions:

*They are only children; does it really matter?*

Yes. **Children who attend school for less than 95% of the time underperform significantly and have reduced lifetime opportunities.** Absenteeism impacts on achievement. Schools with poor attendance and diminished outcomes do not remain 'Good'.

*But my child has been ill and I have told you this?*

Absence is absence, and impacts on a child's learning and wellbeing, regardless of the reason and is clear in the actions taken under national policy.

Of course we have respect for parents who state that absence has been a result of specific unavoidable illness yet this does not negate the fact that their child has been impacted by it.

We are required to inform you of your child's absence and a child who is absent due to intermittent illness has missed the same amount of time as a child who has been absent as a result of a parent's failure to bring them to school for unauthorised reasons.

If a parent is subjected to a fine, this can be appealed against on medical grounds but it should be noted that the absence is not ignored owing to circumstance and may not be seen as 'good reason' in court without specific, long term, medical support and evidence.



Well done to the following students for achieving a 100% attendance for the academic year 2023-24

Y1: Tilly

Y2: Eddie

Y3: Thomas, Gabriel and Fife

Y4: Skyla, Joshy and Lola

Y5: Harry

Y6: Josh