

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023

## School Attendance

Dear Parents and carers,

I am writing to update you about our plans to improve pupil attendance. Attendance of children at MMPS is well below the Department for Education expectations and other schools nationally. Attendance of children at school is a Government Priority.

**Poor attendance leads to poor attainment at school. Children who miss school fall behind other children academically and socially.**

**Poor attendance leads to poor habits which will impact on their future school and adult life.**

Since the Covid Pandemic the attendance of children at MMPS has fallen significantly.

The government expects a child's attendance to be at or above 96%.

Our school attendance is 89%. Children who have missed over 10% of their schooling are classed as persistently absent. 185 of our children fall into this category.

You may have recently received a letter about your child's attendance. This is part of the new Local Authority attendance procedures that school is following.

School will;

- Regularly monitor your child's attendance and punctuality.
- Inform parents when their child's attendance has become a concern. School will be in touch and you may be asked to provide more rigorous evidence for their absence and any future absences.
- Promote good and regular attendance through weekly assemblies and class and individual recognition.
- Inform the local authority where there are high levels of absences. This could result in fixed penalty notices being issued.



Parents must;

- Inform school on the morning of the absence as to the reason for their child's absence. This should be done by ringing school on **01274 495934**. All absences without a valid reason will be marked as unauthorised.
- Send their children to school every day. Children should still attend school with coughs and colds. We can arrange to administer any medication they may need to take.
- Work with school to ensure their children attend regularly and on time.

I hope that you will support school to be able to do the best for your children.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Lorraine Martin

Headteacher