



# Wingrove Primary School Attendance Newsletter Summer 2017



**Welcome** to the summer edition of Wingrove's attendance newsletter. As mentioned in the last newsletter I focused on time-keeping last half term. We had a lot of children arriving to school late, but this has greatly improved. We need to work keep this up. We continue to work towards our goals regarding attendance and punctuality as we believe this gives children the best education. Attendance lower than 95% can significantly impact upon your child's learning.

If you would like to speak to me regarding your child's attendance or absence, I am outside most mornings near the main school doors.

With kind regards

Mrs Prosperini  
Administrative Officer

**Remember** the doors open at **8.45**. If you arrive after the bell goes at **8.55**, you are late. Get to school on time and be prepared for the day ahead.

Morning nursery doors open at **8.40** and afternoon at **12.25**.

**HURRY!  
HURRY!  
HURRY!**

## Overall Punctuality

Last half term **59** pupils were late: a total of **70 minutes lost**.

Please ensure you get your child to school on time.



## **Overall attendance**

Children in primary school are expected to have attendance above 95%.

Our target for the whole school is set by the government and the local authority and we are expected to reach at least 95% this academic year. Currently we are on **95%**, we need to work hard to maintain or even improve this.

## Phoning to report an absence

Please phone before 9.00 the first morning your child is absent. Leave a message on the absence line (option 1). It is important to state your child's full name, the name of their teacher and the reason for their absence.

Although we strive for good attendance for all children, we understand that everyone can be ill. If your child is too unwell to come to school, then please phone the school on the number below:



**0191 2735466 or  
0191 2735842**

## Illness

All children at some point are ill, which means that they cannot attend school.

If your child has sickness and diarrhoea or a high temperature then they cannot attend school. However, if your child has a minor complaint such as a runny nose, mild cough or sore throat, then they could attend school. So far since September an **unacceptable 1948** days have been missed due to illness.



## At the end of the school day

Picking your child up on time at the end of the day is just as important as getting them to school on time.

Please remember school finishes at **3.15** and afternoon nursery at **3.30**. If, on occasion, you may be late picking your child up, please ring the school office.



## Holidays and leave of absence in term time

We continue to work with the local authority in relation to issuing fines for holidays taken in term time. This has happened recently to some of our families. However, the amount of leave of absence has decreased, which has contributed to the rise in attendance we have seen recently. This is good news, but we haven't achieved our goal of eliminating holidays during term time.

Last half term **26** pupils have contributed to **234** days of missed learning through holidays and leave of absence.

Please look at the school term calendar and plan your time away to be in school holiday time.

The calendars are available to see on all outside notice boards, at the school office and on the school website for your information.



## Film and popcorn afternoons

The children love to try and achieve the best attendance for their class. Every half term, the classes in EYFS/Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, with the best attendance, win a film afternoon complete with popcorn. The winners last half term were:

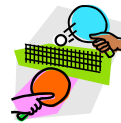
**EYFS/Key Stage 1:** Miss Jordan's class with 95.6%

**Key Stage 2:** Miss Hopper's class with 98.5%.

**Well done to all classes. They all enjoyed a film afternoon.**

Children can track their attendance in class and every child who has been in school every day during the half term is put in a draw to win a book.

We also have **Golden Time** every Monday 2.30-3.00 for the class who have the fewest lates. The children get to choose an activity



## 100% Attendance Draw



All children who achieve 100% attendance in a half term, and haven't been late, will have their name in the prize draw.

The prize this half term is tickets to Newcastle Trampoline Park.

## Trampoline Park

The winner of the Trampoline Park pass for last half term was Farah who is in Mr Barker's class. Farah managed to achieve 100% attendance with no lates for an entire half term.

WELL DONE, Farah



# Why every minute counts

Being late every day - results in - days lost per school year

5 minutes	=	3 days
10 minutes	=	6.5 day
15 minutes	=	10 days
20 minutes	=	13 days
30 minutes	=	19 days

This attendance report shows a marked improvement on last year. We all continue to work very hard to ensure that all children achieve their full potential. This means they need to have good attendance and punctuality in order to get the most benefit from school.

Whilst we understand that there may be times when children need to be absent from school, we cannot support any additional time taken off during term time. The changing landscape of education means that there are many schools which are becoming academies, gaining trust or free school status. This means they are outside the control of the local authority. This in turn has led to many schools changing their holiday periods. I understand that this can cause disruption to families where siblings attend different schools. I have suffered many times with each of my two children having different holidays. Whilst we understand all difficulties faced, we cannot support children being on holiday during term time. Some families who have taken their children out of school have lost their place at Wingrove, as we have a waiting list for all year groups across the school. We must strive to improve attendance and punctuality in order for all children to achieve their full potential. I will be meeting with some parents and carers to discuss the matter further.

A few years ago we purchased two large clocks which were on display outside the school. We did this as an additional drive to improve punctuality. However, we have encountered huge problems with them and they have both been returned to the manufacturer on several occasions, only to lose time once more. We are currently looking into a solution to this problem and urge you to check your watch as well as looking at the clock on the wall, as it sometimes does not show the right time. We will work to rectify this issue as it is a huge frustration for all of us.

Thank you to all of you who work really hard with your children to ensure their good attendance. I'd really like to aim for 96% this year, in order to be in line with the national trend. I know, with additional effort, we can do this. I look forward to sharing the results with you at the end of this year. But, in the meantime, can I thank you all for your continuing support in this matter. Please come to see us if you need any support with any punctuality or attendance issue.



