

# Attendance Matters

Issue 19 – Summer Term 2019

## What is Attendance Matters?

Attendance Matters is a termly newsletter which is sent out to families of children who attend schools within the Wisbech Schools' Partnership  
The newsletter will keep families updated on the latest attendance information and news.



## Term Dates

### Summer Term 2019

Tues 23 April to Wed 24 July

**May Day:** Mon 6 May

**Half term:**

Mon 27 to Fri 31 May

**Summer holiday 2019**

Thurs 25 July to Tues 3 Sep

### Autumn Term 2019

Weds 4 Sep to Weds 18 Dec

**Half term:**

Mon 21 to Fri 25 Oct

**Christmas Holiday 2019/20**

Thur 19 Dec to Sun 5 Jan 2020

### Spring term 2020

Mon 6 Jan to Weds 1 April

**Half term:**

Mon 17 to Fri 21 Feb

**Easter holiday 2020**

Thurs 2 to Fri 17 Apr



## Attendance Rewards



Well done to the 5 prize winners from Elm, Elm Road, Beaupre, Ramnoth and Gorefield who attended for 100% of the Spring term with no lates. Prizes included **3 family tickets for Tenpin Bowling kindly donated by Play2Day, a Sacrewell Family Pass, many thanks to Sacrewell Farm,** plus books and a puzzle.  
Here are the winners from Ramnoth, Beaupre and Elm Road.

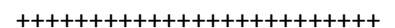


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**At the end of the Summer Term, 5 pupils who achieve 100% attendance with no lates throughout the term will receive a prize PLUS one pupil with 100% attendance and no lates during the whole year will receive a grand prize**



### Please note -

Academies and some schools are able to set different dates. Schools have 5 training days available to take at their discretion.  
Please contact your school for details.



Unauthorised Holidays

Children of school age who are registered at a school must, by law, attend that school regularly. Regular attendance is the best way of ensuring that a child makes the most of the educational opportunities which are available to him/her.

When a child is absent from school, he/she misses not only the teaching provided but is also less prepared for the lessons after his or her return.

There are only 190 statutory school days in one year and 175 days (weekends and school holidays) available to use for holidays. Therefore every school day counts!

Regulations make it clear that parents do not have any right or entitlement to take a child out of school for the purposes of a term time holiday.

If parents take their child on holiday in term time this will be counted as unauthorised absence - this is the same as truancy and you may be at risk of a penalty notice being applied.

YEAR 6 CAREERS EVENT

In March almost 400 Year 6 pupils from 12 primary schools attended a Careers Event at Thomas Clarkson Academy meeting local and national employers and education establishments. Here are some of the participants.



Exclusions

If your child has been excluded from school they must stay at home during school hours and not be in a public place.

If they are seen out during school hours Penalty Notices will be issued.

Penalty Notices

- The Penalty Notice fine is £60 per parent per child which rises to £120 if not paid within 21 days. If not paid after 28 days you may be prosecuted
Parents in the Cambs. area have recently been given a four week suspended sentence for taking their child out of school during term time for the third time. They must complete 20 days of RAR (Rehabilitation Activity Requirement) and must also pay court costs of £165 each. The parents were warned that if they took their child on another term time holiday, the suspended prison sentence was likely to be activated and they would be jailed for 4 weeks.

Home Visits

Home visits may be undertaken if your school suspects the family is on holiday, and could result in your child being reported as Missing in Education

Average Attendance

The average attendance for children in primary schools in the Wisbech Schools' Partnership for -

Spring term 2019

95.6%

The national expectation for each child's school attendance is 100%