

NEWLYN SCHOOL

Headteacher : Mrs A Whitney

Telephone: 01736 363509

Email: secretary@newlyn.cornwall.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.newlyn.cornwall.sch.uk>



Newlyn School
Carne Road
Newlyn
TR18 5QA

Date: 10th November 2017

Dear parents and carers,

Since September 2013, there has been a change in Government legislation and approval to take your child out of school during term can only be authorised by the school in 'exceptional circumstances'. These circumstances include: acute family trauma, terminal illness or death of a family member, if a family member serves in the Armed Forces

Miss Gambie and myself would like to impress on you the importance of regular attendance. A Department for Education report 2012 stated:

'There is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement'.

Governmental policy insists that every child should attend school for at least 95% of the academic year.

Traffic light attendance system

Green – 100% attendance

Children with attendance of 100% per half and full term will receive a green certificate.

Amber – 90-95% attendance

Children whose attendance falls between 90% and 95% will receive a letter noting this, together with a copy of their registration certificate on the reverse. These will be printed on amber paper to indicate the level of our concern. Myself and Miss Gambie would be pleased to meet with you to offer support or talk through any difficulties which are contributing to poor attendance.

Red – attendance below 90%

Children whose attendance falls below 90% will receive a letter noting this, together a copy of their registration certificate on the reverse, printed on pink paper. These children are at danger of becoming persistent absentees. Parents **will be required** to make an appointment to see Miss Gambie and myself.

If no contact has been made or improvement in attendance seen, then the County Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) will take on the case. The EWO will then monitor that child's attendance and take action, including legal action if they see no improvements. Hopefully parents will feel able to discuss matters before this occurs.

I see my role as one of helping parents and children to overcome any barriers that may cause them to miss out on school and their education. I would therefore recommend parents to contact Miss Gambie or myself as soon as issues arise.

School attendance rewards

Over the last few years, we are really pleased to note that there has been an overall improvement in children's attendance. Classes with the best attendance each week get to have our school attendance mascot, a soft toy mouse called Alice for the week. For classes who have won Alice three times, they get to have a special treat such as a trip out. Thank you to parents who have played a role in this by ensuring children do not have any unnecessary time off school.

Your children's educational welfare and well being is our main concern and we look forward to your continued support with the above.

Kind regards

Miss Gambie and Mr Moore