

# THYTHORN FIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



## ATTENDANCE FOR 2023/24 ACADEMIC YEAR

Our attendance target is 96.5%

These are the current figures for the whole year:

EYFS: 94.45%

Year 1: 95.23%

Year 2: 95.43%

Year 3: 93.62%

Year 4: 94.52%

Year 5: 92.79%

Year 6: **95.82%**

Dates: 23/8/23 – 30/6/24



## NEW NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ATTENDANCE

**ALL** local authority schools are required to follow a new **National** Framework for Penalty Notices. The following changes will come into force for unauthorised absences that occur after 19th August 2024.

Penalty Notice fines will be issued for unauthorised term-term absences.

These absences include: family holidays and irregular attendance which are above the set threshold, and persistent late arrivals.

Please take a look at our Attendance and Punctuality policy on our website for information on the eligibility for authorised holidays before booking your trip and for further information on other absences where the fines are also applicable.

## WHAT ARE THE CHANGES?

From 19th August 2024 any unauthorised absences or irregular attendance will incur a charge of **£160 per parent, per child** when paid within 28 days. Reduced to **£80 per parent, per child** if paid within 21 days.

If a second unauthorised absence or irregular attendance is recorded within a 3-year period the fine will be: **£160 per parent, per child** when paid within 28 days with no option to pay the reduced amount.

Should a third occasion arise, a Penalty Notice will not be issued as the case will then proceed to the Magistrate's Court. Magistrate's fines can be **up to £2500 per parent, per child**.

## HOW TO AVOID THE NEW PENALTY NOTICES FOR LATENESS

This is a **NATIONAL** framework and Thythorn Field does not benefit from the penalty charges. All unauthorised absences must be reported to the local authority from where the fines are issued.

In order to avoid these fines, please ensure your child arrives into school before registers close at 8:50am. Any arrivals after this time will be classed as a missed session. If you need to report an absence due to illness please email, text or call the office with a reason before 9am as our office staff start to contact parents if we haven't heard by this time. We will call and then text if we have not heard from you and if we still haven't made contact by 10:30am, we will be obliged to make a home visit to check on our pupils' wellbeing.

## TERM-TIME HOLIDAYS

If you still wish to take your child out of school during term-time, we ask you to please email or call into the school office to notify us of your intentions and you will be sent/given a form to complete before your holiday request can be considered.

As our Attendance and Punctuality policy states, some requests may be classed as authorised in exceptional circumstances. In such cases, we may require evidence before authorisation.

## ABSENCES DUE TO ILLNESS

We understand that there will be unavoidable instances of illness throughout the academic year.

**Please can we ask that you continue to send your child to school if they are experiencing 'mild' illnesses such as headaches, stomach aches, coughs and colds. This allows busy parents/carers to continue with their day, without having to have days off work or cancel plans.**

If your child feels unwell at school, we will always make contact with you to see if you can bring any medication in or whether it is in your child's best interests to leave school and rest at home.

On the other hand, if your child has a high temperature or experiences vomiting and/or diarrhoea, please inform the school between 8.30-9am that they will be absent. We require 48hrs absence following the last bout of sickness.

Please speak to the school office if your child requires short-term prescribed medicine during school hours as, with parental consent, we may be able to administer the medicine on your behalf.

## ATTAINMENT VS. ABSENCE

Being in school for registration allows each child the opportunity to socialise with their peers before their main lessons. As soon as they arrive, they have opportunities to read with an adult and be involved in activities to prepare them for their day ahead.

Pastoral support is offered to those children who experience school anxiety and find it difficult to transition into the class. Social and emotional chats usually take place before registration to allow a child to settle easily, therefore being on time is beneficial to a child.

This link provides you will statistics on attainment and absences:

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/the-link-between-absence-and-attainment-at-ks2-and-ks4>

## AND FINALLY...

May we take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support in promoting daily attendance. We have many children who are on target to meet **100%** attendance by the end of this academic year. This is remarkable - THANK YOU.

If you need any further information on the new National Framework, please do not hesitate to ask.