



# Wingrove Primary School Attendance Newsletter Term 2 2021-2022



**Welcome** to the second edition of the attendance newsletter this academic year. The school gates open at 0835 and it is wonderful to see many children arriving to school on time, but we also have some children arriving at school after the buzzer sounds at 0855. If your child arrives early they have a relaxed start to the day instead of rushing into class at the last minute or late. Children start learning as soon as they are in class, so your child is missing out when they arrive late. We continue to work towards our goals regarding attendance and punctuality as we believe this gives children the best opportunity. Attendance lower than 95% can significantly affect 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 **0835**. If you arrive after the buzzer sounds at **0855**, you are late and should report to the office. Get to school on time and be prepared for the day ahead.

Morning nursery doors open at **0840** and afternoon at **1225**.

**HURRY!  
HURRY!  
HURRY!**

## Punctuality



Look out for charts on class windows. If all the children in class have arrived on time all week they get a ✓ and if any children arrive late they will get an ✗ Please make sure your children arrive to school on time, as when they arrive late it disrupts the rest of the class.

## **Overall attendance**

Children in primary school are expected to have attendance **above 96%**.

Our target for the whole school is set by the government and the local authority and we are expected to reach at least 96% this academic year. Last term we achieved **93.5%**, which is significantly lower, so we need to work hard to improve this. **Any COVID-related absences are not included in this figure.**

## Phoning to report an absence

Please leave a message on the absence line phone before 0900 on the first morning of your child's absence. Leave a message on the absence line by dialling 1 when prompted. 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 to let us know.



**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 then they cannot attend school for 48 hours.

**However, if your child has a minor complaint such as a runny nose or sore throat, then they can attend school.**



## At the end of the school day

Picking your children 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 **1515**. Afternoon nursery is **1530**. If, you think you might be late picking up your children, please ring the school office to and we can let your child know.



## 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 is an increasing problem, we feel our children should not miss out on their education. **Last term we had 20 children missing almost 200 days due to holidays.**

Please look at the school term calendar and plan your time away during school holiday time. **Penalty fines will be enforced accordingly.**

The calendars are available from the school office and are on the school website.



## Film and popcorn afternoons

The children love to try to 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. Letters are sent home to the winning classes.



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We also have **Golden Time** every week for the class who have the fewest lates. The children have time on the bouncy castle and have a selection of board games to play with their classmates.



## 100% Attendance Draw



All children who achieve 100% attendance in a term, and have on time every day, will have their name entered in the prize draw. A name is drawn out in Gold Assembly and the winner is awarded a collection of prizes.



We also have an attendance chart in each classroom, where the children can track their own attendance. The children with 96% or above each half term have their names in a prize draw and the winner is awarded a book.

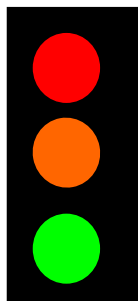


## Do you know your child's attendance?

Your child's attendance is important. Keep your child in the green zone, with at least 95% attendance. If you would like to know your child's attendance ask at the school office.

### Could you be in school more?

### What is your attendance?



**Red** – Danger Zone **Below 85%**

**Amber** – At Risk Zone **85% - 94%**

**Green** – Safety Zone **95% - 100%**

I continue to enjoy greeting you all outside school at the beginning and end of most days, and it is lovely to see so many children getting to school on time. We opened the gates earlier at 0835 at the beginning of the pandemic, but we have kept this in place as we felt it was working so well. Creating a twenty-minute window for all children to get to their classes in the morning provides children with a calmer start to the day and also gives parents and carers time to speak to staff. Well done to all of you who take advantage of this and bring your children to school on time and ready to learn. As I type this, I can hear the whoops of delight from the children in Mrs. Rutter's class, this week's **Golden Time** winners, as they jump around on the bouncy castle. They were so excited to win this punctuality award.

It has been a very busy term so far, as we received a visit from Ofsted for two days on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January. It was wonderful to show the inspector all the great work that goes on in school. He also spoke with staff and children as well as looking at lessons and work in books. Thank you to all of you who completed the online survey. Your views will support his writing of the report that will be published in the coming weeks.

Attendance continues to be affected by COVID and we have had a number of cases among staff and pupils this term. Although schools are no longer required to inform any close contacts of positive cases, we continue to share this information with families. Please ensure we have your correct email address and keep up with messages on our online platforms, Class Dojo (Nursery and Reception) and Seesaw (Y1-Y6) to keep up to date. If your child has any of the three symptoms: a cough, a high temperature or loss of taste or smell, they must stay off school, book a PCR test and isolate until the results arrive. If parents test positive for COVID, children can still attend school, but should take daily lateral flow tests. We will continue to support all families who struggle to get their children to school, and would urge you all to ensure that you continue to support our school in improving attendance figures as we try to make up for the missed time and the huge impact the pandemic has had on learning for all.

Mrs J Mullarkey

