

Thornton Primary School
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19 October 2017

Attendance, Punctuality and Illness

Here are some disturbing figures about our attendance:
The schools expected target is **96.1%**, last year we achieved **95%**.

Since September:

- **83** days have been taken for holidays – mostly unauthorised
- **473** days have already been lost to illness by **229** children
- **Two full weeks** of education have been lost by children arriving late after 9am
- The 'late' entrance to the Viaduct has been used **441** times between 8.50am and 9.00am.

These figures are having a huge impact on lost learning time, and as such are clearly not acceptable.

The school has therefore enlisted the help of 'One Education Ltd' who are an Education, Welfare and Safeguarding Team. They will now co-ordinate meetings with parents regarding attendance, punctuality and illness in partnership with Mrs Howard schools Parental Liaison Co-Ordinator. The company have the ability to process penalties for poor attendance.

It is the school's decision to authorise an absence or not, and very soon all absence phone calls will be made to a senior member of staff who may ask you, if necessary, to provide proof that your child is genuinely ill. If your child has more than ten unauthorised absences within a certain timescale then a penalty may be issued.

Letters will soon be coming out to all parents whose children are regularly late and persistently absent. These will be followed up by meetings and home visits.

I hope that parents will fully support the school in trying to improve our attendance figures, which will help your children with their learning.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Edavison'.

Mrs E Davison

Headteacher

