

















Monday 1st June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER SUMMER 1 HALF TERM 2026

Whole school attendance at the end of Summer 1 half term was **94.3%** which is below the National Average but an improvement on this time last academic year. The National expectation by the end of the year is **97%**. Please work together with us to help achieve this and therefore, ensuring every child achieves their full potential.

The table below shows each registration groups attendance for Summer 1 half term and year to date.

REGISTRATION		SUMMER 1	YEAR TO DATE	REGISTRATION		SUMMER 1	YEAR TO DATE
	Nursery AM	93.6%	91.0%		Nursery PM	87.0%	84.4%
	Reception Doves	89.6%	89.9%		Reception Magpies	95.6%	94.9%
	Year 1 Penguins	91.7%	90.4%		Year 1 Sparrows	94.9%	94.1%
	Year 2 Cuckoos	96.0%	93.3%		Year 2 Flamingos	94.7%	93.9%
	Year 3 Eagles	95.7%	93.8%		Year 3 Wrens	95.5%	95.5%
	Year 4 Falcons	94.7%	95.0%		Year 4 Starlings	95.8%	95.5%
	Year 5 Swans	96.2%	95.9%		Year 5 Woodpeckers	92.3%	94.8%
	Year 6 Kingfishers	97.3%	95.8%		Year 6 Ravens	98.2%	96.2%

Well done to **Year 6 Ravens** for best attendance for Summer 1 half term and best attendance year to date. Let's see if all classes can increase year to date attendance by the end of next half term!

MISSED SESSIONS AND PERSISTENT ABSENCE

Each school day is divided into two sessions: a morning (AM) session and an afternoon (PM) session. Attendance is recorded for each session. Regular attendance in both AM and PM sessions is important to ensure continuity of learning. Missing sessions can significantly impact academic progress, classroom participation, and overall achievement.

Please note that if a student misses more than 38 sessions by the end of the school year, they will have an overall attendance below 90%. This is classified as **Persistently Absent** by the Department for Education. There is a reward available at the end of the school year for 3 children with the most improved attendance.

Please work together with school to improve their attendance % by ensuring children attend school every day and arrive on time.

PUNCTUALITY

The school day starts at 8.45am.

Every day pupils are arriving late through the main office. This impacts their education as they are missing vital learning time in the morning every time they are late and disrupts the rest of the class.

Please help to reduce late arrivals by:

- Establishing a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- Ensure your child leaves home early enough to arrive at school on time for 8.45am.

Persistent lateness after the register closes can lead to legal action being taken by the local authority.

ILLNESS

Any absence due to illness must be notified to the school office on the first day of absence as early as possible as per school policy. Please ensure you either telephone the office on 0121 557 2967 or reply to absence text messages stating the reason for the absence. However, children can attend school with minor illnesses and are always welcome to join us if they feel better later on during the day, rather than missing a whole day of learning.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Routine doctor, dentist and optician appointments should always be made outside of the school day if possible to minimise impact on attendance and learning. We appreciate that hospital appointments are out of your control. Please provide written evidence of hospital appointments as this will be recorded and considered when calculating eligibility to receive an attendance award.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

School can authorise 1 day of absence for religious observance on 2 separate occasions during an academic year (Not 2 days of absence for one religious' event). Again, this will be considered when calculating pupil eligibility for attendance awards.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Government guidance states that leave of absence should not be taken during term time. To date this academic year, **55** pupils have taken leave of absence meaning they have missed valuable learning time in school. Referrals are being made to Sandwell School Attendance Service for issue of Penalty Notices (fines) as per school policy. **The first offence within a 3-year period fine is now £160 per parent if paid within 28 days reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days. For a second offence there is NO discount for earlier payment and any further absences will proceed for prosecution in the Magistrate Court.**

This also applies for any referrals made for non-attendance, the number of unauthorised absences that may trigger a potential fine: 10 unauthorised absences (5 days) in a 10 school week period. This includes late arrival after the register has closed (U Code).

Please demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by not taking leave of absence during term time.

Any leave of absence must be applied for on the official form at least 3 weeks prior to commencement of the leave.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Jayne Bayliss
(Head Teacher)

