



# Eppleton Academy Primary School ....a community of learners

Dear Parents /carers,

We recently sent home a leaflet 'Every School Day Counts' highlighting the importance of good attendance at school, which we hope you took the time to read and consider (if you would like a second look it is available on our school website).

Good attendance is a high priority at Eppleton Academy Primary. We believe that it is essential that children attend school regularly if they are to achieve their potential. Absence not only adversely affects a child's attainment but also their personal and social skills. We value your support in helping us to maintain our high standards.

Recent monitoring of our school attendance figures shows that we are falling short of our school target of 96%.

In fact the first few weeks of the Summer term brought figures of only 93%.

This has led to a thorough review of our attendance policies and procedures. These are available for you to read on our website.

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

**Remember attendance of 90% is the equivalent of 1 day off each fortnight.**

We will be monitoring very closely attendance and punctuality going forwards in order to make rapid progress. We will give you regular updates on our website and through school newsletters.

We intend to raise the profile of attendance even higher in school, with displays, workshops and assemblies which will help children to explore the reasons why it is so important to come to school and what could happen if they don't attend school regularly. We will continue to offer rewards to classes with the highest average attendance. After much deliberation, Year 5 recently decided to spend their £25 reward for the Spring term with a shared picnic and thoroughly enjoyed their time. It has been decided that the class with the highest average attendance this term will enjoy a 'McDonald's party', which they are all keen to be part of! We will also offer added incentives for individual children who succeed in reaching 100% attendance. As you can see, there are so many good reasons to have good attendance at school!

Finally, our school prides itself on supporting all of our families, if you have any issues impacting or that could impact on your child's attendance, please contact us as we want to work closely with our parents / carers to support excellent attendance. May I thank you for your continued support.

|   |                       | Very Good  | Worrying              | Causing Serious Concern   |                       |  |
|---|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| <b>The Effect of Absence on School Progress</b>   |                       |  |                       |   |                       |  |
| A whole year has 365 days.<br>A school year has only 190 days.<br>This leaves:<br>175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments |                       |  |                       |   |                       |  |
| No absence  | 10 days absence       | 12 days absence  | 19 days absence       | 29 days absence   | 38 days absence       |  |
| 190 days of education   | 180 days of education | 178 days of education  | 171 days of education | 161 days of education   | 152 days of education |  |
| 100%  | 96%                   | 94%  | 90%                   | 85%   | 80%                   |  |
| <b>Very Good</b><br>Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start   |                       | <b>Worrying</b><br>Less chance of success. Makes it harder for your child to make progress |                       | <b>Serious Concern</b><br>Your child will find it very difficult to make progress. May result in court action |                       |  |

Yours Faithfully

Mrs L Jackson (Deputy Head Teacher)

Headteacher:  
Mrs K. Bushby  
BA(Hons), NPQH

Chair of Governors:  
Reverend J. Wren



Healthy School



Church Road  
Hetton le Hole  
Houghton le Spring  
Tyne and Wear

Phone: 0191 553 6738

Fax: 0191 553 6739

E-mail:

office@eppletonacademyprimary.co.uk

www.eppletonacademyprimary.co.uk