



October 2018

## BUCKLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

*Believe, Excel, Strive, Together*

# Attendance Newsletter

**Every Child Matters and Every Day Counts!**

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Children learn new things when they are in school every day – missing school puts them behind.

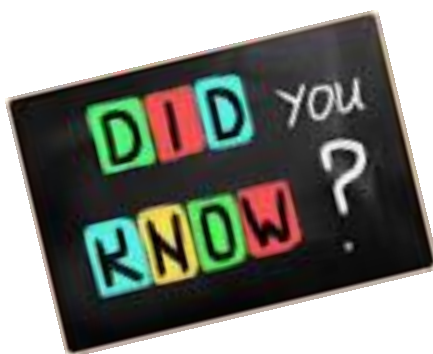
### Why it's important

We all want our children to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with children coming to school each and every day.

If children miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a child misses school this puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.



In primary school, some students miss on average 3 weeks of school per year. That's half a year of school by the end of year 6.

make every day count.

Attendance that falls below 90% is called Persistent Absence (PA)

At Buckland Primary School we achieved 95.3% attendance for the academic year 2017-18 and are now aiming for 95.5% or above.

Can YOU help us to achieve this?



## Absence through Illness

We understand that there are times when children are unwell. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, as parents, setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference. We have devised a useful reference guide to help you decide when you should keep your child at home.

### RED – STAY AT HOME

**Sickness and Diarrhoea** – 48 hours must have elapsed before a child can return to school from the last episode.

**High Temperature over 37.5°**

**Rashes** – this can be the first sign of a serious illness – check with your GP.

### AMBER – SEEK ADVICE

**Headache, Feeling Sick, Tummy Ache**

Children often feel unwell if they are anxious, so if in doubt please send them in and contact the school for advice. We will always contact you if your child does not improve.

### GREEN – COME TO SCHOOL

**Cough, Cold, Sore Throat, Feeling Tired**

We will always contact you if your child is ill during the school day.

## Attendance matters!

Don't underestimate the importance of 100 percent attendance. Even ONE day missed can have an effect on learning:

- 98 percent attendance means **four** school days missed
- 95 percent attendance means **10** school days missed
- 90 percent attendance means **19** school days missed
- 80 percent attendance means **38** school days missed
- **Five minutes** late each day means **three** school days missed

Please help us promote good attendance throughout our school – you really do play an important role.

*Every day*  
**COUNTS!** 

### Good time keeping means.....

Making sure your child is at school on time ready to learn.

Being 15 minutes late each day is the same as missing two weeks of school.



**Did you know? If your child is late after registration more than 10 times in a half term, we can refer you for a Fixed Penalty Notice.**

### Absence during term time & Fixed Penalty Notices

Absence will not be authorised during term time except in rare and exceptional circumstances. It is very important that all parents and carers understand that children with unauthorised absences, including holidays, unexplained absences and unauthorised illness, are at risk of receiving a Fixed Penalty Notice from Surrey County Council.

If you need to request absence from learning, please complete the Leave Request Form which can be collected from the school office or downloaded from the website, and return to the school office. Once the form has been submitted we will write to parents advising the outcome of the request.