



Attendance Matters

27th September 2017

Green Lane Primary Academy / Ribblesdale Avenue / Garforth / Leeds / LS25 2JX

A message from Attendance Improvement Officer Tom O'Reilly.....

“Welcome to our new parents and a warm welcome back to our existing parents/carers.

Green Lane Primary Academy pupils achieved an average attendance level of 96.7% over the 2016/17 academic year. Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring pupils attend every possible Academy day. We look forward to another great year!”

AVOIDING LATENESS

GLPA appreciates parental support in ensuring pupils arrive prepared and on time for the Academy day. Pupils who attend late miss out on valuable information and important instructions during lessons.

Lateness reduces pupils' achievement regardless of academic ability. A pupil may feel awkward arriving to a classroom when the rest of the class is settled. Pupil lateness to lessons can disrupt the entire class and teacher which can compromise children's attainment.

If you are struggling: Set an alarm either on a bedside clock or mobile phone. Set the alarm 15 minutes earlier to allow time for getting ready, breakfast and the journey to the Academy. Make sure your children's school bags are packed the night before, including homework and PE kit. This saves looking for it in the morning. Allow a bit of extra time for traffic jams and bad weather if you drive your children to school.

TERM TIME HOLIDAY REMINDER

A pupil who is absent for a two week holiday will miss 50 hours of education and miss vital links in class work that will have a detrimental effect on future learning. Green Lane Primary will not grant permission for holiday during term time. This policy is in line with current statutory guidelines which came into effect in September 2013.

The issue of term time holidays has received a large amount of attention in the media recently. You may be aware of the Supreme Court judgment with regard to a prosecution brought about by the Isle of Wight Council v Platt. Please be aware that there has been no change in the law with regard to the penalty notice system or the interpretation of what should constitute pupil's regular attendance. Head teachers retain the discretion to decide whether to authorise an absence in any given circumstances.

Have a look at the table below to see what your child's attendance figure means in real terms:

Attendance %	Absence per week/fortnight	Absence per year	Absence over 5 years
95	½ day fortnightly	2 weeks	¼ Year
90	½ day weekly	4 weeks	½ Year
85	1 ½ days fortnightly	6 weeks	¾ year
80	1 day weekly	8 weeks	1 Year

2017-2018 GLPA ATTENDANCE TARGET = 97%