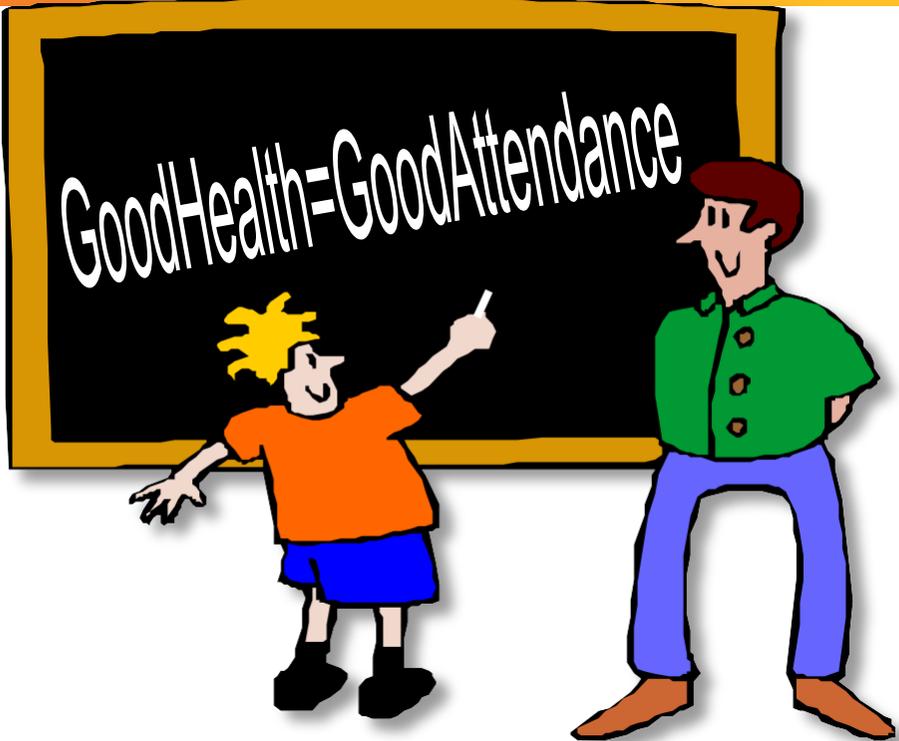


Every School Day Counts!



**Greengates Primary Academy
Attendance Officer**

Mrs Sutcliffe

01274 611324

Too Poorly To Attend?



In 2020 over a quarter of a million school days were lost in Bradford Primary Schools due to **authorised** absence.

The main reason children are absent from school is due to illness

Keeping healthy so your child is able to attend school more regularly is an important part of your child's life. All children should be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well being.

Parents can also help by ensuring their children stay healthy by taking exercise, getting enough sleep and eating a healthy diet.

Good Common Sense

Please remember that early morning aches and pains often pass, so don't keep your child at home 'just in case' when they could be learning in class. If you are not sure, please contact Mrs. Sutcliffe – remember we will send your child home if are too ill to stay at school.

What the law says -

Regular attendance at school is important. Failing to attend school regularly can have a major impact on children's education, their future and their life chances. Regular attendance means attending school everyday, arriving at school on time and attending every lesson.

Under section 7 of the Education Act 1996, parents are responsible for ensuring their child (from age 5 to age 16) receives efficient full time education that is suitable to the child's age, ability and aptitude and to any special educational needs the child may have. This can be through regular school attendance or through elective home education (EHE)

Parents who fail to ensure their children attend school regularly without good reason could:-

- Receive a Penalty Notice Fine of £60 per parent per pupil
- Be prosecuted in the magistrate's court and be fined up to £1,000
- In more serious offences, where parents have been previously prosecuted they could be fined up to £2,500 or face imprisonment

Family Holidays -

You can demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by not taking holidays during term time. Any child or young person who is absent from school due to a holiday will miss out on learning and will fall behind with their work.

In each Academic Year there are only a maximum of 190 statutory school days – this allows plenty of time for holidays to be arranged outside term time.

Holidays taken during term time will not be authorised by the Principal and therefore will be categorised as unauthorised.

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Is my child well enough to attend school?

Raised temperature

If your child looks or feels shivery, unusually cold or hot, they may have a raised temperature. This may be due to a variety of reasons. If your child has a raised temperature, they should not be in school.

However, your child should be able to return to school 24 hours after they feel and look better.

Cold and Cough

A child may attend school with a minor cold or cough.

However, children with bad or long-lasting coughs need to stay at home. When the cough is disappearing and the child is feeling better, they need to return to school.

Rashes

A rash is the first sign of one of childhood's many illnesses, such as chicken pox or measles. The rash or 'spots' may cover the entire body or just appear in one area.

Do not send your child to school with an unexplained rash or skin eruption until you have consulted a doctor.

Minor aches and pains

If your child has a persistent tooth or ear ache, they need to see a dentist or doctor without delay.

A child whose only complaint is a minor headache does not normally need to be kept at home

Vomiting and Diarrhoea

If vomiting occurs, keep your child at home until they are able to keep food down. A child with diarrhoea should also be kept at home.

Consult your doctor if your child does not improve as you expect. Please keep your child off school for 24 hours after the episode of sickness or diarrhea.

Sore throat

If your child complains of a slight sore throat and has no other symptoms, they are fit to go to school.

If a sore throat occurs with a raised temperature, they need to stay at home.

School Nurses

School Nurses are there to help you. All schools have a designated school nursing team with whom you, your child or the teachers can access the support or advice on any medical condition. School Nurses can also direct you to the services that will help your child.

School Nurses provide a health and advice service which is available to you and your child from the first day they start school. School Nurses work all year round so if you need help or advice in the holiday they are there for you to contact.

Good Health = Good Attendance

Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life.

We believe that children who do not attend school regularly are more likely to:-

- Fall behind in their school work
- Find it difficult to make and keep friends
- Be unhappy at school
- Become involved in antisocial behaviour

Setting good attendance patterns from an early age will also help your child later on. Employers want to recruit people who are reliable. So children who have a poor school attendance record may have less chance of getting a good job.

What is 'Good Attendance'?



Samantha is in Year 5. Her attendance is always around 90%
Samantha's mum thinks that is pretty good!

So what does 90% attendance look like?

90% attendance means she is absent from school for the equivalent of one half day every week.

Mon		Tues		Wed		Thurs		Fri	

In Year 5 Samantha's 90% attendance rate means she has missed the equivalent of FOUR weeks in school

Sept										July

If Samantha continues to attend for only 90% of the time, in her 6 years in primary school she will miss more than half a year of education

	Sept									July
Year 1										
Year 2										
Year 3										
Year 4										
Year 5										
Year 6										

Over half a year's education missed!!

Is 90% attendance good enough?

What parents can do to help??



Ensure your child attends school everyday and on time and follows the school rules



If your child is not well enough to attend contact the school on the first day of absence



Try to make dental and medical appointments outside of school time or at weekends



Take family holidays during the school holiday - if this is not possible you **must** ask permission from the school



Try to attend parents evenings and school events



Talk to your child about school and take an interest in the work that they are doing



Contact your child's school immediately if you have any concerns about their progress or welfare

