

# Oxford Garden's attendance presentation

The objectives of this are:

- For the school community to understand why we need to continue to work on the whole school attendance
- To discuss the process that OGPS follows with attendance
- For us to work together!

# Why is attendance and punctuality so important to us?

- It's our legal responsibility to know where all of the children are and why they aren't at school. We need to make sure that the children are safe.
- If the children aren't here to learn we can't help them to succeed.
- We can't succeed as a school community if the children aren't here enough to benefit from the great teaching.
- They miss out on so much! Trips, prior learning, assessments, workshops, PE, cooking etc.
- It helps to promote good life habits such as good punctuality to help children later in life.
- Children need to feel that they are a part of the school community. The children don't want to feel that they are not a part of the school or feel left out from their friendship groups. There is also a big focus on attendance within the school and the children want to feel that they are succeeding with this.

# What are we aiming for?

As a school we have to aim for the national average of attendance which was above 96% last year.

We aim for every child to be in school 95% of the year.

We cannot authorise any term time holidays. There are only exceptional circumstances when Ms Cooper would authorise absences during term time and you must meet with her in advance to discuss this. This is no guarantee that it will be authorised even once having met with Ms Cooper.

# However.....

We do understand that children get ill and we don't want them to come into school if they are ill.

If the children aren't feeling very well but they can come into school please bring them in and then the teachers will send them home if they are too ill to be here.

# Attendance protocols at OGPS

## School procedures for all children

- If a child is absent then the office staff will contact the parents or carers to find out why.
- Parents are asked to bring a letter to explain the child's absence. If a medical letter is available they should provide it. If the absence is over 4.5 days they need to show medical evidence or they can be fined.
- Classes told each week their whole class attendance
- 100% attendance assemblies held every half term and stripes given out as rewards
- Children will be given a coloured slip of paper at the end of each half term to indicate their attendance percentage for that half term.

# Attendance protocols at OGPS

Children that have less than 90% attendance over a six week period or the whole year

- These children are classed as persistent non attenders. We have to have systems in place to show what we do for these children.
- Mrs Potter will meet with any children that have less than 90% attendance each week. This is to encourage the children to come in more often and to monitor any issues that may be preventing the children from attending.
- Regular monitoring of improvements or continuation of poor attendance.
- Parent contracts- parents must meet with the lead on attendance and put in place individual targets to raise attendance.

If the attendance doesn't improve after the above measures are put in place we refer the child to Early help service. These are an agency that support parents with a range of issues including attendance. If it continues after that it can lead to prosecution from the local authority.

# Questions and feedback

- Please feel free to ask any questions about attendance. You can find Mrs Potter in Goblin class at the end of the day.
- We would love to get feedback about how you feel about how we are tackling attendance. Let us know if you have any suggestions to help us tackle this together or any feedback points about our current schemes.
- Thank you for taking the time to read this presentation!