New Malden Fax: 020 8336 0992 KT3 4LT
Web: www.burlingtoni.kingston.sch.uk Email: admin@bri.rbksch.org
Headteacher: Mrs S Yay-Walker BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

## Attendance and Punctuality - Reception, Year 1 & Year 2

As we begin our Summer term, I would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the school guidelines around attendance and punctuality.

Regular attendance is extremely important for your child's wellbeing and progress. We realise that children are sometimes unwell and need to stay at home, but we would like to encourage you to ensure that your children come to school every day.

Sometimes it can be difficult to make a judgement on whether your child should come to school. Below are some general guidelines:

- If your child has a cold and/or a cough but **no** temperature, and are well in themselves, they can come to school. Please do not give Calpol before school as this can mask a temperature.
- If your child has had sickness or/and diarrhoea, please keep them at home for 48 hours following the last bout. This is very important to prevent infections from spreading.
- Children who have had chickenpox can return to school as soon as the spots have dried up.

In the main school, National guidelines are that all children should aim for a minimum of 97% attendance.

If your child's attendance falls below 95%, we will be writing to let you know. If their attendance is significantly lower, we may contact you to arrange a meeting. Children whose attendance falls below 90% are identified by the local authority as **Persistent Absentees**. Attendance this low will have a detrimental effect on a child's academic progress and may prompt the involvement of the Local Authority Education Welfare Officer.

Half Term	Days missed will class as persistent absence
End of half term 1	3 days in total
End of half term 2	6.5 days in total
End of half term 3	10 days in total
End of half term 4	13.5 days in total
End of half term 5	16.5 days in total
End of half term 6	19 days in total

If there are any factors affecting your child's attendance, please let us know as soon as possible.

#### **Reporting absence**

If your child is absent from school for any reason, we ask that you contact the school office before 9.00 a.m. on the **first day** of absence. You can do this:

By telephone – 0208 942 1586 - **OPTION 1**Through the website – <u>www.burlingtoni.kingston.sch.uk</u>

If your child is absent due to being unwell, please ensure that you tell us the exact nature of the illness.

#### **Absence for other reasons**

If you wish to apply for school absence for religious reasons, or for exceptional circumstances, please complete an exceptional leave form available on our website or from the school office, giving one month's notice. Please note that absence for holidays in term time is never authorised as per our Attendance Policy:

https://www.burlingtoni.kingston.sch.uk/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Copy%20of%20Attendance%20Policy%20Nov%2022%20for%20website.pdf

Please also note that any holidays of 5 days or more may incur a Fixed Penalty Notice. More information on FPN's can also be found in our Attendance Policy.

## **Unexplained absence letters**

If your child has been absent from school without explanation, you will receive a letter asking you to complete and return a reply slip letting us know why your child was away. If no reason is given, the absence will be unauthorised and this presents as a concern.

## <u>Lateness</u>

Please could we ask that you arrive on time for school.

• Morning drop off – 8.50 am – if you arrive after this time you will need to bring your child to the school office and complete a green 'Late form'.

• Afternoon pick up – 3.20 pm - if you are going to be late collecting your child from school at the end of the session for any reason, please contact the school office to let us know as soon as possible. Children can become very anxious if they are left behind, and it is important that we can reassure them that you are on your way. You will be asked to complete a Late form on collection of your child. More than 3 late collections could result in a fine as per our Attendance Policy.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact the school at <a href="mailto:admin@burlingtoni.org.uk">admin@burlingtoni.org.uk</a>.

Kind regards

Elaine Walker Attendance Officer

# Do I need to keep my child off school?



