



St. Mark's C.E. Primary School

Talbot Village, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 4JA

Headteacher: Andrew Bright

Friday 21 July 2023

BCP FAST TRACK TO ATTENDANCE FOR FRAMEWORK

Dear Parents and Carers,

We understand that attendance this year has been affected by many factors, including national strike days, medical conditions and prolonged illnesses to name a few. The Department of Education however still has an expectation that attendance is closely monitored by all schools. In the new academic year, 2023 – 2024, we will be adopting the BCP 'Fast Track to Attendance' framework to target attendance issues.

At the end of the Autumn term, we will review every child's attendance, and for those whose attendance has fallen below 90% (persistent absence), the Fast Track to Attendance process will be initiated. This process starts with a meeting when a formal contract will be drawn up and agreed upon in order to ensure support is given where needed in addressing any attendance issues. Targets will be set to work on together over a 12-week monitoring period. In all cases, this process will be implemented with the best interest of supporting your child's attendance so that they access a maximum of their education.

According to the BCP Fast Track to Attendance framework, if the desired outcomes are not met, this can result in a referral being made for a penalty notice for persistent absence in respect of your child/ren under Section 23 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act. We must legally inform you that this the fine for each parent is £60 if paid within 21 days and £120 if paid within 28 days. You may be prosecuted under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 if a Penalty Notice is issued but not paid. These are however, not funds that come into the school, it is part of the coordinated BCP approach to supporting attendance in school.

If you wish to discuss this matter or have any concerns, please contact Miss Egan at the school on 01202 512241. Please let us know if you would like to speak with our Pastoral Team who can offer advice or support, or for details of how you can contact the school nursing team if this is an avenue of support you wish to explore.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Bright
Headteacher