Issue 2 – November 2026

Attendance Newsletter

Every Day Matters!

Congratulations to our whole school community as we continue to maintain a fantastic level of attendance in school.

At Birkdale Primary School, we believe that excellent attendance and punctuality are essential foundations for success.

Children who attend regularly are more likely to:

- Achieve well academically
- Build positive friendships
- Develop confidence and resilience
- Feel connected to school life
- Establish positive habits that will benefit them throughout life

Our aim is for every child to achieve the highest attendance possible.

Every day matters because every child matters.

Arriving On Time Matters

A positive day starts with a punctual start.

School Timings

🟢 Doors Open: 8:40am

🟡 Doors Close / Registration Begins: 8:50am

🔴 Registers Close: 9:20am

Please note that the doors close promptly at 8:50am

Children arriving after 8:50am will receive a **Late Mark** in the register.

Children arriving after 9:20am will be registered with an **Unauthorised Absence.**

10 unauthorised absences may result in a Penalty Notice being issued by Sefton.

Even arriving a few minutes late can mean missing important learning, daily routines and information that helps children settle successfully into the day.

Top Tip:

Aim to arrive by 8:45am to ensure a calm, positive start to the school day.

Attendance to date (18th November)

Class	Attendance
Bumblebees	96.4%
1L	95.9%
1R	94%
2C	95.7%
2P	95.6%
3C	92.6%
3S	96.3%
4M	94.3%
4S	96.7%
5B	92.6%
5JS	92.5%
6C	95.2%
6G	95.2%

We would like to thank all families who have supported their child's attendance since the start of term.

Our attendance super-stars:

4S – Mr Stevenson

Bumblebees – Mrs Eden

3S – Mrs Sinnott

A huge well done to the pupils and families in these classes for their excellent commitment to attendance. Your support makes a huge difference to your child's learning and progress.

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Is My Child Too Ill for School?

We are fast-approaching the 'coughs and colds' season when we all become more susceptible to bouts of illness and feeling unwell.

Many major illnesses do not require children to stay at home.

The NHS advises that children should normally attend school if they have:

- ✅ A mild cough, cold or sore throat (without a high temperature)
- ✅ Conjunctivitis, if they are otherwise well
- ✅ Slapped cheek syndrome (once the rash appears)
- ✅ Threadworms (while treatment is being arranged)
- ✅ Hand, foot and mouth disease, provided they are well enough to attend
- ✅ Head lice or nits (once treatment has started)

However, children **should be kept off** school if they:

- ❌ Have a **high temperature of 38°C or above**
- ❌ Have been **sick or had diarrhoea within the last 48 hours**
- ❌ Have **chickenpox** and spots have not yet crusted over
- ❌ Have **measles** (and are within the exclusion period advice of a medical professional)
- ❌ Have illnesses that require an exclusion period following medical advice

The NHS also reminds parents that avoiding school can sometimes make worries or anxieties about attendance worse.

If your child is struggling with anxiety or worries about school, please speak to us as soon as possible so that we can **work together** to provide support.

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Let's Work Together

Good attendance and punctuality are among the greatest gifts we can give children.

By ensuring children attend school every day and arrive on time, we help them build positive habits, develop friendships, achieve their potential and enjoy every opportunity available to them.

Please see the links below for further information about deciding:

"Is My Child Too Ill for School?"

Please take time to click on the link below to view this short film.

"Is My Child Too Ill for School?"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_i5KxggkPTw

Useful information from the NHS

https://attendancetoolkit.blob.core.windows.net/toolkit-resources/NHS%20guidance%20sheet.pdf

At Birkdale Primary School…

Every child matters

Every lesson matters

Every day matters

Every minute matters!!

