



Highwood Primary School,
Fairwater Drive,
Woodley,
READING,
Berkshire.
RG5 3JE

Tel: 0118 926 5493
Fax: 0118 926 6819

Email: admin@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk
www.highwood.wokingham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mr M Hickey BA(Ed), PE QTS

30/01/17

Dear Parents / Carers,

Attendance

As you know, we regularly monitor the attendance of pupils and have put initiatives in place to encourage children to be in school every day. Our criteria for our Highwood VIPs include an attendance target and our weekly attendance trophy awarded in our celebration assembly is something the children like to win.



While I completely understand that children get ill, some of our children have already dropped below the 90% attendance rate, which is the figure used to trigger involvement from the Local Authority's Education Welfare Officer.

Last Year, Highwood had 11.6% of its pupils meeting the criteria for Persistent Absenteeism (less than 90% attendance) which is above the national average of 8.8%. To avoid this trend continuing, I will be writing to all parents who are in the Persistent Absentee category, to make them aware of the need to improve. I will also write to parents whose children are in the 90% to 93% category, so that we can hopefully avoid them dropping below the 90% threshold.

Here is the full list of year group data of persistent absentees (as of 22/01/17):

Year group	Number of children with less than 90% attendance	Total in class	% of children with less than 90% attendance	Number of children between 90% and 93% attendance
F2	8	30	26.7%	0
Year 1	1	33	3.0%	2
Year 2	0	32	0.0%	3
Year 3	5	31	16.1%	2
Year 4	4	29	13.8%	5
Year 5	2	33	6.1%	5
Year 6	7	27	25.9%	4
Whole School	27	215	12.6%	21

Thank you for your support and understanding with this important matter.

Matt Hickey
Headteacher
@headhighwood

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.org.uk

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<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/highwoodprimaryschool>

