

## DID YOU KNOW?

*We expect a minimum of 97% attendance from all children.*

**90% in a test is good, 90% attendance is bad! Your child is missing 100 lessons a year!**

**You can be fined for a five day holiday. The fine is £80 per parent, per child.**

*Children are only at school for 190 days, that leaves 175 for holidays!*

*Every day counts as two attendance sessions; the morning and afternoon.*

**A 'U' code is given to children arriving after 9.20, meaning they are marked as absent for the whole morning session.**

**If you don't phone us with a reason for absence, it will be unauthorised.**

*Medical appointments still count as an absence.*



**We are determined to improve children's attendance. We know that we cannot do it this without your support. Please support us to ensure your child's right and Grendon's Goals are met. Every minute really does count. Together WE CAN!**

# ATTENDANCE AT GRENDON

## GUIDE FOR PARENTS

2025 / 2026



**Children have the right to an education under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.**

**Respecting children's rights is one of Grendon's Goals.**

**To meet their right and our goal, children need to be in school every day – it is their right.**



## ATTENDANCE AT GRENDON

Parents surveys always highlight that you feel that we do all we can to encourage good attendance. With your help, we demonstrated our capacity to improve attendance during the 2023/2024 school year.

During 2024/2025 we maintained this improvement, but did not improve further. The number of children who were persistently absence, which means they have missed more than 10% of the school year, (equivalent of 19 or more school days), remains too high and, at 93.7%, overall attendance is not yet good enough.

Attendance is never an issue that is solved. Very simply, we need to improve further...and **WE CAN**...but we need your continued support to do so.

## DOES IT MATTER IF MY CHILD IS ABSENT?

Yes! Look at what they are missing! Lessons in school are not repeated, lessons move on. Every lesson your child misses means that they fall behind in their learning and feel less confident because they do not understand the next lesson.



I have 97% attendance!

**Over the year, that's 6 days or 1 week or 25 lessons missed!**

You may have missed two whole units of maths like fractions or multiplications.



I have 95% attendance!

**Over the year, that's 9 days or 2 weeks or 50 lessons missed!**

You may have missed all of the PE lessons for two whole terms.



I have 90% attendance!

**Over the year, that's 19 days or 4 weeks or 100 lessons missed!**

You may have not had any Science lessons for the whole year.



I have 75% attendance!

**Over the year, that's 48 days or 10 weeks or 250 lessons missed!**

You may have not learnt any phonics or had a new reading book



I have 50% attendance!

**Over the year, that's 95 days or 19 weeks or 475 lessons missed!**

You may have only half the teaching but be expected to reach the same standards.

## DOES IT MATTER IF MY CHILD IS LATE?

It really does! Not only are they likely to miss parts of the same lessons over and over again, but they will also not know what they are supposed to be doing for the lesson they join late.

Furthermore, every minute missed adds up...

Regularly 5 minutes late...

Regularly 10 minutes late...

Regularly 15 minutes late...

Regularly 20 minutes late...

Regularly 30 minutes late...

and over



the year

... you miss 3.5 days of education.

... you miss 7 days of education.

... you miss 10 days of education.

... you miss 14.5 days of education.

... you miss 22 days of education.

## ATTENDANCE HEROES

**HERO means "Here Everyday, Ready & On time".**

Every day, children will have access to a HERO stamp and an individual record card. As long as they are in the classroom by 8.50am, they will be able to stamp their own cards. If they are late, after 8.50am, or of course absent, the stamp will have been put away and they will miss their stamp for that day.

At the end of the week, every child who has five stamps will receive a raffle ticket and will enter the half termly draw to win a Smyths voucher. In this way, we encourage not only good attendance, but also punctuality.

It also allows children to try again the very next week if they miss their reward for one week. Termly and yearly prizes will also be awarded for regularly good attendance and punctuality.

