

Quick-Read Attendance Policy



For more detail, please read our full policy on the school website:

<https://www.applegarth.n-yorks.sch.uk/key-information/school-policies/>

What time does school start?

8:50am



How do I let school know about unexpected absences e.g. illness or medical appointments?

Ring school 01609 773521 and press option 1 to leave a message **OR**
Email school admin@applegarth.n-yorks.sch.uk
Let us know as soon as possible and by 9.00am
Let us know every day unless we know when they'll be back.

What time does school finish?

3:20pm



How do I let school know about planned absences?

Ask the school office for a **Leave of Absence Form**.

Who can I talk to if I am worried about my child's attendance?

We are all happy to help. Please talk to the office staff, Mrs Hughes or your child's teacher.

Which senior leader in school has responsibility for attendance?

Mrs Hughes



Did you know?

Attendance **below 90%** is judged as 'persistent' absence
Attendance **below 50%** is judged as 'severe' absence
Our school target is 97% attendance

What is school doing to encourage good attendance?

- Making school a happy and welcoming place to be
- Informing parents about their child's attendance
- Identifying and working closely with families needing support
- Looking carefully at attendance data and trends for patterns and areas to improve

What will happen if my child does not arrive at school and school does not know where they are?

- 1) Office staff will call by 9:30am. All other contacts will be called if there is no response.
- 2) If they cannot reach you, the on site safeguarding lead will send a text and email.
- 3) If there is no response by 10:30am, a member of staff will visit your home for a welfare check.
- 4) If there is no response, a note will be posted to notify you we've visited and requesting an urgent response.
- 5) We may need to contact external professionals, or if seriously worried, the police.

This is a very time-consuming and unnecessary process. Please call before 9:00am so that we know you and your family are safe.

When does the Local Authority get involved in my child's attendance?

When a pupil has 10 or more sessions of unauthorised absence, the attendance Fast Track process begins. The process involves an initial formal warning letter. If no improvement is made, a panel meeting is held. A legal meeting (PACE) is held next and a penalty notice and/or prosecution may be served if attendance continues to decline.

When will fixed penalties be issued?

- For holidays taken in term time a penalty notice of £60 will be issued (going up to £120 if not paid promptly)
- If support for attendance has been refused or has not been successful over a sustained period of time. The penalty notice at this stage is considerably more than a holiday one.