



Tudor Grange Primary Academy

## Meon Vale

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

School attendance is vital to the life chances of children and young people. Being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation throughout their life. The greatest benefits come from children and young people attending school regularly.

We are aware that the COVID-19 pandemic may have caused some parents/carers to feel less confident with assessing whether their child is well enough to be in school. It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. We hope you will find the following NHS guidance helpful: ['Is my child too ill for school?'](#).

As an Academy we take attendance and punctuality very seriously and therefore would like to remind you of our expectations when your son or daughter is absent from school or you wish to take leave of absence in term time.

### Absences Procedure

If your child is ill and unable to attend school, a parent or carer must telephone or send an email to the main school office, before 9:00am, on every day of absence. Please notify the main office of any infectious or contagious illness occurring in the household of a pupil. In such cases, a pupil should not attend Tudor Grange Primary Academy Meon Vale until the incubation period has passed or a medical certificate has been submitted indicating that they are permitted to return.

### Daily Absence Check

Each day registers will be checked and if a pupil is absent and no communication has been received from the pupil's parent/carers then a phone call will be made to ascertain the whereabouts of the pupil for that day. Please note all contact numbers that have been provided to the Academy will be tried and a message will be left where necessary, or an email will be sent. We request you return any calls as soon as possible to ensure we are able to safeguard all pupils at all times.

### Attendance Welfare Officer (AWO)

The Academy's AWO may call at your home to discuss your child's absence if there is a concern regarding attendance or the reason given for absence is not acceptable. The visit may be carried out unannounced. At Meon Vale Primary Academy, the Principal and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leaders lead on Attendance and Welfare matters.

### Leave of Absence

- **Medical** - If a pupil needs to attend a medical appointment, a letter or appointment slip must be brought in from home. In the case of text message appointments, a screen shot of the appointment will suffice. Appointments should be shared with the pupil's teacher, and the School Office. All pupils must sign out when leaving school, stating the reason for leaving. When the pupil returns from the appointment, they must report back immediately to the School Office to sign in. Pupils must be collected by a parent/carers from the Office.
- **Religious Observations and Funerals** - A leave of absence form, which can be obtained and returned to the School Office. By completing the form, we will know where your child is and there will be no necessity to disturb your day.



Tudor Grange Primary Academy

## Meon Vale

- **Family Holiday** - Leave will **not** be granted for family holidays unless under exceptional circumstances. Requests for a leave of absence must be made on the Academy's official leave of absence form, which can be obtained from the School Office. When completed, the form should be returned to Office for it to be passed on to the Principal for their decision. You will be notified of the Principal's decision in writing. On occasion, before a decision is made, you may receive a phone call to discuss the request further. When leave of absence has not been authorised, a referral will be made to County for a Penalty Notice to be issued.

### Persistent Absence

The Academy reviews pupils' attendance and punctuality on a regular basis, whether it be authorised or unauthorised absence. If a pupil's attendance falls below 95%, we will start our Tudor Grange Academy Trust attendance interventions. The interventions are intended to support parents/carers and pupils to improve school attendance. The interventions will be in the form of letters, phone calls and meetings, depending on the level of concern. If these interventions fail and attendance continues to fall, we may have to refer the case to the Local Authority Education Department for them to consider legal action.

### Punctuality

Arriving late to school and to lessons is very disruptive for the teacher and other class members. It also means that pupils themselves miss important input from teachers. Morning registration is at **8:45am**. If, for whatever reason, your child will be arriving late please call the School Office (01789 721 060) to inform them. A pupil arriving late to school must sign in at the Office.

The following table shows the amount of valuable learning time that is missed due to poor school attendance.

Attendance during one school year	Equals days absent	This is approximately in weeks absent	Which means this number of missed lessons
95%	9 days	2 weeks	45 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	95 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	145 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	190 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	240 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	285 lessons
65%	67 days	13.5 weeks	335 lessons

If you would like to view the full Attendance and Punctuality Policy it can be viewed on our website [www.meonvale.tgacademy.org.uk/about/policies/](http://www.meonvale.tgacademy.org.uk/about/policies/).

Also, please find attached to this message, a copy Warwickshire County Council's 'Leave of Absence During Term-Time Updated Information for Parents'.

Attendance is a team effort and we would like to thank you for your continued support in helping to raise attendance, punctuality, attainment and achievement at Tudor Grange Primary Academy Meon Vale.

Kind regards,

Mrs Powar, Principal – Tudor Grange Primary Academy, Meon Vale

Tudor Grange Primary Academy Meon Vale,  
Bailey Avenue, Meon Vale, Warwickshire, CV37 8QW