

New Delaval Primary School

Newsletter - January 2018

www.newdelavalprimary.sch.uk



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Dear Parents/Carers

A belated 'Happy New Year' to parents who I have not yet spoken to since the start of term.

Attendance and Punctuality at New Delaval Primary

As in previous newsletters New Delaval continues to promote excellent attendance and punctuality in school. This first newsletter of the new year is dedicated to this subject.

We know that a child's attendance has a direct impact on their learning. Those children who are regularly absent from school and regularly late do not achieve their potential and do fall behind in class.

Punctuality is also a major concern, lessons start promptly at 9:00am and there are a lot of children arriving at school after 9:00am who are missing out on valuable learning time. Please make sure you get your child to school on time.

The school office should be notified if your child is ill or unable to attend due to a medical appointment or other unavoidable reason. If your child is absent without notification you will be contacted by telephone and asked to provide a reason for the absence. Medical appointments should be arranged outside of the school day to ensure children do not miss valuable learning time. Where this is unavoidable, we expect children to be in school before the appointment and return to school after where this is appropriate.

Our whole school attendance for last term was 95% so, unfortunately we did not meet our target of 96%. We must improve! Currently we have in school 12 pupils who have attendance below 90% and are classified by the Government as "Persistent Absentees" this means that these pupils have missed more than 10% of their possible sessions in school. I will be contacting the parents of those children involved to meet with me to offer a support plan towards increasing their attendance.

Please see overleaf for more information on attendance and punctuality. If you have any concerns or require any support in getting your child to school please contact the school office.

Many thanks for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'D T Worrall'.

Mrs D T Worrall
Headteacher

For lots more information!
Visit our website: www.newdelavalprimary.sch.uk

Attendance Procedure at New Delaval Primary

- Mrs Simpson is our Attendance Administrator and will call or text parents in the morning to find out about any unexplained absence. It is important that you call the office and let them know if your child is poorly.
- All parents will receive their child's attendance at parents evening to discuss with the class teacher. The parents of any child falling below 96% attendance will be sent a letter of concern to make them aware that their child's attendance is slipping and ask for their support in ensuring that it improves.
- Pupils who have consistently low attendance will be referred to the Local Authority Education Welfare Officer.

Reporting Illness

Please contact school on the **first** day of your child's illness before 9:00am. Please ring **01670 353255** for out of office hours please leave a message on our answer machine.



We also have the facility to text your message please text your message to **07860005171**

Your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised if a reason is not given. Please note any attendance figure under **90%** is classified by the government as a persistent absentee. As a school we are obliged to send out letters to families of those pupils who fall below this figure. Please contact school if you wish to discuss this further.

Most children at some point are ill, however, if your child has a minor complaint such as a runny nose, mild cough or mild sore throat, then they could attend school.



Minutes late per day	Number of days over a year
5 minutes	3.4 days
10 minutes	6.9 days
15 minutes	10.3 days
20 minutes	13.8 days
30 minutes	20.7 days

If your child does not go to school regularly and you fail to work with the school and the Education Welfare Service then you may be fined up to **£2500**

80% attendance is the same as having a day off every week

Keeping children away from school for no good reason is a criminal offence

If you take a two week holiday in term time your child's attendance will automatically be reduced to less than 95%

90% attendance is the same as having a day off every two weeks



At New Delaval we have the highest aspirations for your child: we know that the world is run by those who turn up, and that every lesson counts towards your child's achievement. We also know that you, as your child's parent/carer, want your child to get on well in life. Children only get one chance at school, and your child's chances of a successful future may be affected by not attending school every day on time. When children do not attend or are late, they:

- struggle to keep up with school work
- miss out on the social side of school life – especially at primary school. Poor attendance can affect children's ability to make and keep friendships, a vital part of growing up.

What does the law say?

By law, all children of compulsory school age must get a suitable, full-time education. As a parent/carer, you are responsible for making sure this happens. **Once your child is registered at New Delaval Primary you are responsible for making sure he or she attends regularly. If your child fails to attend regularly - miss school - the Local Authority (LA) may take legal action against you.**

The LA is responsible for making sure that parents/carers fulfil their responsibilities, and the school must tell the LA if your child is regularly absent from school. As a parent/carer, you are committing an offence if you fail to make sure that your child attends school regularly. You run the risk of being prosecuted by the LA if your child's attendance is poor; parents/carers can be fined up to £2,500 or imprisoned for failing to ensure that their child attends school regularly.

The School Day at New Delaval Primary

8:45am	Registration - Classroom doors open - please note because of weather conditions doors may be closed but are UNLOCKED
8:55am	Classroom doors locked.
9:00am –11:00am	Lessons
11:00am-11:15am	Mid morning break
11:15am-12:15pm	Lessons
12:15pm-1:15pm	Lunch time
1:15pm-3:15pm	Lessons

Terms Dates for 2017/2018 and 2018/2019

<u>HOLIDAY OR OCCASION OF CLOSURE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL CLOSE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL REASSEMBLE</u>
Spring Mid-Term 2018	Friday 9 February 2018	Monday 19 February 2018
Easter 2018	Thursday 29 March 2018	16 April 2018
<u>MAY DAY</u> <u>MONDAY 7 MAY 2018</u>		
Summer Mid-Term 2018	Friday 25 May 2018	Monday 4 June 2018
Summer 2018	Friday 20 July 2018	Tuesday 4 September 2018
October Mid-Term 2018	Friday 26 October 2018	Monday 5 November 2018
Christmas/New Year 2018/2019	Friday 21 December 2018	Monday 7 January 2019
Spring Mid-Term 2019	Friday 15 February 2019	Monday 25 February 2019
Easter 2019	Friday 5 April 2019	Tuesday 23 April 2019
<u>MAY DAY</u> <u>MONDAY 6 MAY 2018</u>		
Summer Mid-Term 2019	Friday 24 May 2019	Monday 3 June 2019
Summer 2019	Friday 19 July 2019	Monday 2 September 2019

**Please note we have a teacher training days on
Monday September 3rd and Tuesday September 4th 2018**