

### What about the weather?

- \* The weather cannot be an excuse for your child not to be at school.
- \* Snow days are still school days unless the staff cannot get to school!
- \* England is known for lots of different types of weather, we are used to it, bring your child to school!



### Who can I speak to if there are problems which affect my child's attendance?

- \* Mrs Birch, our Pastoral Manager
- \* Class teacher
- \* Headteacher / Deputy Headteacher

### Is it really serious for children to not be at school?

YES!

Here is James.



James has 90% attendance.

Sounds good doesn't it?

But is it...?

90% ATTENDANCE = 1/2 DAY MISSED EVERY WEEK!

90% ATTENDANCE = 4 WHOLE WEEKS OF LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR!

JAMES WILL FALL BEHIND IN HIS LEARNING.  
NOT BEING AT SCHOOL SERIOUSLY DAMAGES A CHILD'S LEARNING!

The average attendance of children at Sacred Heart is 96%. That's why our children enjoy school and are successful in their learning!

### Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

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## Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

### ATTENDANCE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



Care, Courtesy  
& Commitment

### Why should my child be in school?

- \* They do not miss any lessons.
- \* They increase their learning.
- \* They will do better in assessments.
- \* They will more likely get a job.
- \* They will be safe.
- \* They will understand the importance of commitment (just like going to work and getting a job.)
- \* We really like your children being here! ☺
- \* It is the LAW. Parents can get penalty notices if this law is broken.

### What happens when your child is not in school regularly?

- \* They miss lessons and crucial information.
- \* They will fall behind in their work.
- \* They will not be able to do their best in assessments and may even miss them.
- \* They will not understand the importance of regular commitment.
- \* They could become involved in anti-social behaviour.
- \* You could be fined.



### Why is punctuality important?

- \* Your child will be calm and ready to begin learning.
- \* They will not miss registration.
- \* They will not miss the start of the lesson.
- \* They will not disrupt the teacher, nor other staff working in school when they come in late.
- \* They will not disrupt their classmates.
- \* They will enjoy meeting their friends in the playground and learn social skills.
- \* School starts at 8.55am. Gates open at 8.40am for F2 - Yr2 and 8.50am for Yr3 - Yr6 and 3.20pm F2 - Yr2 and 3.30 for Yr3 - Yr6.
- \* If your child is late, please go to the main entrance where they need to be signed in by a parent / carer.
- \* Attending Toast Club will help them be in on time—it is open 8.00—8.40am at a cost of £3 per session.

If your child is ill, please telephone the school and leave a message on our absence line or on the Parent App on the first morning of sickness.

If your child is ill for more than one day, please telephone the school everyday to inform us of how your child is.

On return to school, please send a letter in to the class teacher, stating the dates and reason for absence.

### Holidays during term times

- \* We understand that holidays during term time may cost less money, but they are still against the law.
- \* Term time holidays are a serious issue—and the government is advising schools to take serious action where they need to in order to make sure they do not happen.
- \* The school is NOT ALLOWED to authorise absence during term time, unless there are exceptional reasons (this does NOT include sickness of a family member.)
- \* Taking unauthorised holidays could result in a penalty notice from the Local Authority.

### What if your child is ill?

- \* Being ill may prevent your child from going to school, but if they can get out of bed and play, or watch television, they should be at school.
- \* Coughs and sneezes are no excuse not to come to school.
- \* Feeling tired is not an illness, help them to have a bedtime routine which ensures a good night's rest.

