



THE CARLTON
JUNIOR ACADEMY™

29th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance and the impact on your child's educational journey

We have looked closely at attendance and the academic achievement and progress of our children. There is a clear pattern: pupils with attendance of 95% or above achieved more highly in each subject. This shows that **when pupils have good attendance they achieve highly and make better progress.**

To achieve 95% attendance pupils must have less than 10 school days off per year. Pupils with attendance between 90 and 95% show a significant drop in both achievement and progress. **Good attendance dramatically affects the outcomes pupils achieve which will affect their future, including how they transition to secondary school, destinations on leaving school and future earnings.**

We regard 'good' attendance as being **at least 98%**. We use a variety of initiatives in-school to encourage good attendance, including:

- A weekly award for the class with the best attendance – they get to keep the mascot in their classroom and extra playtime
- Every child who has had 100% attendance and no lates in any given week goes into a draw – 3 names are chosen at random and the winners receive a token to exchange for tuck items of their choice.

Please send your child to school every day. If they are reluctant, encourage and if necessary, challenge them, reminding them of the benefits of achieving well in their future lives. NHS guidance states that it is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold. If your child is ill during the school day, they should tell a member of staff. Staff will act accordingly, and I assure you that if your child is ill and needs to go home, a member of our team will contact you.

Please refrain from taking holidays during term time. We are working with the local authority and issuing penalties for families taking unauthorised holidays during term time. This means, if you take a holiday without the headteacher's consent, you will be fined. We understand the financial challenges of holidays in school holiday windows, however, the law is clear, and we will, as always, follow national guidance.

If you are concerned about your child's attendance and would like to discuss support that is available, please contact the school office on office@carltonjunior.org.uk or call the academy on 0115 9110402.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Wood
Headteacher