



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary School

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Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

Attendance at Our Lady of the Rosary

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Attendance at Our Lady of the Rosary is one of our main priorities because at 92% it is well below the national average of 96%. Our persistent absentee rate is 28% with some of our children last year missing the equivalent of one whole term of education. This as you must agree, has to change. It is vital for our children to attend school every day and on time as this will make a huge difference to how well they achieve. In order to reach this target, we are offering new initiatives and rewards to promote good attendance across our school.

New Launch

During our Friday 'Celebration Assembly', the attendance results for each class will be announced. The class with the highest weekly attendance and children not arriving to school late will be praised for their efforts and presented with class trophies and certificates. The children are very competitive and are eager to see who wins the trophy each week so please do all you can to support your child(ren) in getting to school on time. In addition, excellent individual attendance will also be rewarded.

Money in the bank

Our attendance theme for this year is 'Money in The Bank'. The class with the best attendance each week and children arriving on time each week will also receive £5 for their class which will be placed on the attendance board. The cash accrued can be cashed in at any point throughout the year to purchase something for their class, such as a wet play game, books, a treat, toys or stationery etc. We would love your full support with this by ensuring that your child attends school and arrives on time. We do appreciate that children may not always be able to attend 100% of the time due to illness and all children in our school understand this.

School Attendance at Our Lady of the Rosary week beginning 12th September!

<u>Day</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Total absent for the week</u>
No. of children absent	9	7	5	10	8	39

Already this term, we have completed 7 home visits to discuss non-attendance and since returning to school on the 6th of September we have had 9 children absent, due to family holidays. We are working closely with the Local Authority to identify any families, who have been absent due to holidays. Please be aware that if you have taken your child out of school for a family holiday, you will receive further information from school and also the Local Authority, as we have an obligation to refer these cases to our link Attendance Improvement Officer, at Durham County Council.

As parents / carers ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is your legal responsibility and permitting absence from school without a good reason creates an offence in law and may result in prosecution. We will not authorise leave of absence unless in very exceptional circumstances Children who are persistently late or absent

soon fall behind with their learning. Children who are absent from school frequently develop large gaps in their learning which will impact on their progress and their ability to meet age related learning expectations. A child whose attendance drops to 90% each year will, over their time at primary school, have missed two whole terms of learning.

We hope that you will continue to support us with attendance by ensuring that your child is in school every day and on time. Please do not hesitate to contact school for an appointment if you would like to discuss attendance issues or concerns further.

Kind regards,

Mrs M. Graham Acting Executive Head

Mrs K. Myhill Attendance Lead.

