



September 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

We want to work together with you to help ensure excellent attendance and punctuality for your child; we know this will lead to them being more settled and making better progress at Crossdale.

We feel it is important to keep all parents informed regarding their child's attendance, highlighting the benefits of strong attendance over time. Each term, you will receive a letter detailing your child's attendance record.

The following information shows how school attendance can affect your child's future progress.

Above 97%	Above 97%. Less than 6 days absence a year: Excellent attendance! Pupils with this attendance should achieve the best grades they can, leading to the best possible start in their secondary education.
95%	95%. Less than 10 days absence in a year: Pupils with this attendance are likely to achieve their target grades and will be well prepared for starting secondary education.
90%	90%. 19 days absence over the year: Pupils with this attendance are missing a month of school per year and may fall behind in Maths and Literacy; it will be difficult for them to achieve their best. <i>A child averaging 90% attendance from Reception will have missed an entire school year by the age of 14 (end of Year 9).</i> From September 2015, attendance below 90% will be classed as 'Persistent Absence'.
85%	85%. 29 days absence in a year: These pupils are missing 6 weeks of school a year, it will be very difficult for them to keep up and achieve their best.
80%	80%. Pupils with this attendance are missing a day for every week of school. It will be almost impossible to keep up with work. Parents of pupils with this level of attendance could be issued with a Penalty Notice through an Educational Welfare Officer.

In addition to sending out letters termly with your child's percentage attendance, The Department for Education are now asking schools to monitor attendance at or below 90%. Attendance below 90% will be classed as 'Persistent Absence' and as such, we will contact you to bring this to your attention. At Crossdale, we will start contacting families after the autumn half term regarding persistent absence. We will be working hard to encourage all our families to ensure that your children's attendance falls within the acceptable ranges as stipulated by The Department for Education.

We hope you find this information useful. Do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss your child's attendance or any other aspects of school life.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Cresswell and Samantha Seedhouse
Executive Headteacher and Head of School