

Gomer Infant School

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Dear Parents

Attendance Matters

As you are aware School attendance is extremely important and we value all of the hard work you do in getting your child to school and on time. Good attendance, even from the earliest years, is strongly linked to child happiness and future academic success and it sets up important future habits for life.

As a school we carefully track attendance and aim to achieve beyond the national expectation of **95%**.

Attendance at Gomer

Historically our attendance at Gomer has been strong and in line/above National figures and this is something we want to ensure continues. We have noticed a recent impact on attendance and will therefore be an important focus for us as a school. As part of this we are sending out some useful information about attendance.

Gomer Gazette

In order to continue to raise the profile we are also going to keep you updated about attendance in our weekly Gazette.

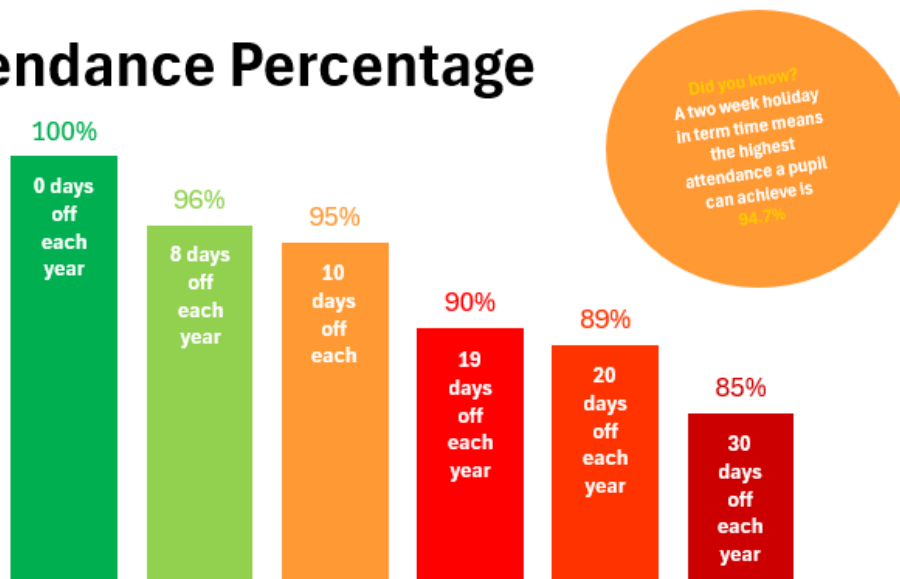
Attendance percentage Figures

When a child falls below 95% we carefully work with parents to improve this. 95% equates to 10 days of school across a school year.

Persistent Absence

We also carefully track children whose attendance falls below 90% as this is considered by the DfE as "persistent absence". A child with 90% attendances equates to 19 days across an academic year, which is a significant concern.

Attendance Percentage













Executive Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Duffy

Head of School: Mrs Emma Lloyd



We do of course understand that there are individual circumstances and that children can't help being ill. There are also some illnesses that can easily spread and we therefore don't want in school. However, some mild illness can be managed in school and / or children can return to school as soon as their illness improves. Our attendance policy explains the process for reporting illness. This will enable us to safeguard your child (knowing where they are) and record the absense appropatly (e.g authorised or unathourised).

AUTHORISED	UNAUTHORISED
 An absence for sickness for which the school has granted leave	 Students who are absent from school without reason
 Medical or dental appointments which unavoidably fall during school time.	 Truancy before or during the school day
 Religious or Cultural observances	 Arrival at the school after registration has closed. (after 9:00am)
 An absence due to a family emergency	 Absence due to shopping, looking after other children or birthdays
 Sporting events, music assessments and competitions (Approval is required)	 Mild student illness

Term Time Holidays

We have noticed an increase in term time holidays, whilst we understand the cost of a holiday it is important for us to emphasise the impact of this.

Children have **12 weeks** school holiday a year meaning they are in school for **190 of 365** days per year. It is therefore extremely important (unless exceptional circumstances) that holidays are booked outside of the school day. Holidays are also liable to fines which are issued by Hampshire Council. This is something that as a school will be actioned.

Arriving to school on time is also important, not only for the child's wellbeing arriving with their friends and being welcomed into school but also because of lost learning time. Children like routine and the morning routine is particularly important for a settled day, so the distribution of lateness does impact this routine. Our school day starts at 8:50am and children are to be in class by 9am for the register to be taken. Children arriving after 9am are consider as 'late' and need to be signed in at the school office.

The importance of arriving at school on time

If your child is 5 minutes late they lose	25 minutes a week	1 hour 40 minutes a month	2 hours 30 minutes a half term	5 hours a term This is equivalent to over 1 full day	16 hours 15 minutes a school year This is equivalent to over 3 days
If your child is 10 minutes late they lose	50 minutes a week	3 hours 20 minutes a month	5 hours a half term This is equivalent to 1 full day	10 hours a term This is equivalent to 2 full days	32 hours 30 minutes a school year This is equivalent to over 6 full days
If your child is 15 minutes late they lose	1 hour 15 minutes a week	5 hours a month This is equivalent to 1 full day	7 hours 30 minutes a half term This is equivalent to over 1 full day	15 hours a term This is equivalent to 3 full days	48 hours 45 minutes a school year This is equivalent to over 9 full days
If your child is 20 minutes late they lose	1 hour 40 minutes a week	6 hours 40 minutes a month This is equivalent to over 1 full day	10 hours a half term This is equivalent to over 2 full days	20 hours a term This is equivalent to over 4 full days	65 hours a school year This is equivalent to 13 full days

We are here to support families who have challenges with attendance and lateness so please also let us know if we can help in any way.

Please also do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding any of this and thank you for your continued support on this.

Yours sincerely



Mrs. S Duffy
Executive Headteacher



Mrs. E Lloyd
Head of School