

Our Ref: KM/NT
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Email: Karen.manning@blackpool.gov.uk
Date: 18th July 2019

Dear Parent,

In Partnership with Devonshire Academy, over the last academic year the Pupil Welfare Service has monitored school attendance on a weekly basis.

From September 2019, Devonshire Academy will be introducing fixed penalty notices for poor attendance and unauthorised leave.

Under the 1996 Education Act all parents/carers must ensure that children attend school regularly and that a criminal offence is committed if a registered pupil fails to do so.

Ongoing poor attendance is a factor often linked to low levels of academic success. Poor attendance could also affect future applications for jobs or college places and many pupils have difficulty maintaining friendships if they have long or numerous periods of absence.

The following information highlights how attendance can affect your child's future progression.

Above 97% = Less than 6 days absence a year

Excellent attendance! Young people who are achieving above 97% will almost certainly get the best grades they can leading to better prospects for their future.

95% = 10 days absence a year

These young people are likely to achieve good grades and have good future prospects, however could still improve their attendance.

90% = 19 days absence a year

Young people who are missing this much time off school will be absent for almost a month per school year, making it difficult for them to achieve their best.

85% = 29 days absence a year

Young people who are missing this much time off school will be absent for almost six weeks per school year, making it very difficult for them to keep up with their work and are unlikely to do their best.



80% = 38 days absence a year

Young people who are constantly missing this much time off school will be absent for one full year over the five years of secondary education, making it almost impossible to keep up with work and dramatically limiting future prospects.

As the above information demonstrates every school day counts and missing any time from school will result in lost learning.

If you are experiencing difficulties in ensuring your child's regular attendance I would be happy to assist you. Please contact me on the above telephone number. If I am not available there is a 24-hour voice mail facility and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely

Pupil Welfare Service and Devonshire Primary Academy

Persistent Absence is defined as 90% and is set nationally through Government Legislation.

90% attendance equates to 19 days absence per year

85% attendance equates to 28 days

80% attendance equates to 38 days



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