

# St Mary Magdalene C of E School with Christ Church C of E Primary School

# **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

"So dear friends, stand strong. Do not let anything move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord. You know that your work in the Lord is never wasted."

	Written in	September 2019	
	Reviewed and updated	Autumn 2021	
	Review	Annual	
		Dr P Gregory	Mrs J Eastaugh
This policy was:		Co-Chairs o	f Governors
	Phingery (	S.P. Kastaugh	
	Approved by	Mrs C Harrison	Mrs V Wainwright
		Federation Co	-Headteachers
		Attamiser.	VAWainungt

1 Corinthians 15:58



It is the intention of this Federation to offer a high - quality education for each of its pupils. For our children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend school regularly and punctually and this policy sets out how we, together, will achieve this.

In order for any attendance and punctuality policy to be effective it must be consistently applied throughout the whole school, by its staff, pupils' and parents.

It is the responsibility of all parents/carers to ensure punctual arrival for the start of the school day and collection at the end. We encourage parents to do all they can to ensure that their child attends school promptly and regularly.

#### Why regular attendance is so important:

Research has shown that regular attendance and good punctuality are key factors in children achieving their full potential at school. Good habits formed early will benefit a child's education and are a good preparation for life.

Any absence affects the pattern of your child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning and achievement. When children miss vital key learning objectives, it can be impossible to catch up, placing them at a disadvantage to their peers.

Pupils attend school for 190 days each year – a total of 38 weeks. If they miss days from school this will affect their attendance rate:

- Less than 5 days absence = 98%+ attendance
- 14 days absence (approx.) = 93.5% attendance
- 20 days absence (approx.) = 90% attendance
- 30 days absence (approx.) = 88% attendance

#### **Every School Day Counts**

Although being absent cannot always be helped as we all do become ill from time to time, please take a look at the table below to show you exactly how much time your child could be missing.

365 Days in a Year	190 School Days in Total	Absence
100% Attendance	190 Days	0
95% Attendance	180 Days	2 Weeks
90% Attendance	171 Days	4 Weeks
85% Attendance	161 Days	6 Weeks
80% Attendance	152 Days	More than half a term
75% Attendance	143 Days	9+ Weeks

If a child achieves 80% attendance this means that they have missed approximately 40 days of education over the academic year, averaging 1 day per week. This clearly has a detrimental impact on a child's education and life chances.

#### Promoting regular attendance

Helping to create a pattern of regular attendance is everybody's responsibility – parent, pupils and all members of school staff.

To help us all to focus on this we will give you details on attendance in our newsletters and website.

<u>Ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is your legal and parental responsibility.</u> Permitting absence from school without good reason is an offence in law and may result in a Penalty Notice being issued or Court action/prosecution.

#### **Safeguarding**

Effective attendance procedures are integral to ensuring all children are kept safe. Your child may be at risk of harm if they do not attend school regularly. Safeguarding the interest of each child is everyone's responsibility and within the context of this school, promoting the welfare and life opportunities for your child. Failing to attend school on a regular basis will be considered as a safeguarding matter.

#### The Law Relating to Attendance

#### Legislation

Ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is your legal and parental responsibility. Permitting absence from school without good reason is an offence in law and may result in a Penalty Notice being issued (Section 23 of the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003) or Court action/prosecution (Section 444 of the Education Act 1996)

Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 states that 'the parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause him/her to receive efficient full time education suitable: -

a. To age, ability and aptitude

b. To any special educational needs, they may have either by regular attendance to school or otherwise. If you wish to find out more information about the legislation around attendance, please visit: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/564599/school\_attendance.pdf</u>

#### **Understanding Types of Absence**

Every-half day absence from school has to be classified by the Campus Leaders or Senior members of the Leadership Team (not by the parents or other staff), as either **AUTHORISED** or **UNAUTHORISED**. This is why information about the cause of any absence is always required, preferably in writing.

Authorised absences are mornings or afternoons away from school for a good reason such as illness, medical/dental appointments which cannot be made outside of school time or unavoidably fall in school time, emergencies or other unavoidable causes.

In order to enable the school to authorise an absence due to illness, parents/carers are requested to;

• Provide medical evidence to the school. This can be in the form of GP/Hospital/Medical/Dental Appointment letters/cards, copies of prescriptions/antibiotics issued (providing the child's name is indicated there on).

In order to enable the school to authorise an absence due to an emergency or unavoidable cause, parents/carers are requested to;

- Speak to the Office staff, advise them of the issue and request the absence be authorised by the Campus Leader or the Senior Leadership Team.
- Write to the school and request the absence be authorised.

If the absence is not related to illness we have a Leave of Absence Form which we ask parent/ carers to complete. (The form is attached to this policy and also available at the school office.)

Absence will only be authorised for educational or medical reasons. Our Campus Leaders or the Senior Leadership Team will authorise absences in accordance with their professional judgement and the requirements of the law.

There may also be occasions when the Federation permits one day's authorised absence for a day of religious observation and parents must complete a Leave of Absence Form.

Unauthorised absences are those which the school does not consider reasonable and for which no "authorised leave of absence" has been given. This type of absence can lead to the use of sanctions and/or referring to the Local Authority for legal intervention.

#### Unauthorised absences are:

• Parents/carers keeping children off school unnecessarily

- Parents/carers not communicating the reason for absence to the school
- Absences which have never been properly explained or evidenced
- Parents not providing medical evidence to the school to support the absence as being due to ill health
- Children who arrive at school after the Registration period has ended
- Truancy before or during the school day
- Shopping, looking after other children or birthdays
- Day trips, holidays or overseas trips in term time

Whilst any child may be off school because they are ill, sometimes they can be reluctant to attend school. Any problems with regular attendance are best sorted out between the school, the parents and the child. If your child is reluctant to attend, it is never better to cover up their absence or to give into pressure to excuse them from attending. This gives the impression that attendance does not matter and usually make things worse. Across our Federation we have dedicated Home School Link Workers who are there to help you as a family in these matters.

#### Absence in Term Time:

Holidays or overseas trip absences in term time will affect your child's schooling as much as any other absence and we expect parents to help us by not taking students away in school time.

Remember that any savings you think you may make by taking a holiday/overseas trip in school time are offset by the cost to your child's education. Because of the damage to your child's learning caused by this, we do not authorise any holidays/overseas trips in term time unless travel is necessary for very exceptional circumstances. There is no automatic entitlement in law to time off school to go on holiday/overseas trip.

#### Persistent Absenteeism (PA):

A child becomes a 'persistent absentee' when they miss 10% or more schooling from the beginning of the school year **for whatever reason** (this includes authorised and unauthorised absences). This measure is set by the Government. Absence at this level is doing considerable damage to any child's educational prospects and we need parent's fullest support and co-operation to tackle this.

We monitor all absence thoroughly. Any case that is seen to have reached the PA threshold or is at risk of moving towards it, is given priority and you will be informed of this immediately.

Projected PA children are tracked and monitored carefully through our attendance system. All our PA children and their parents are subject to an Intervention Plan. All PA cases are also automatically made known to the Attendance Advisory Officer and some cases may lead to a referral to the Attendance Advisory Service of the Local Authority, whereby legal action could be initiated.

#### If your child is absent you must:

- Contact the school as soon as possible on the first day of absence, advising of the reason and likely length of absence, either by telephoning the school office. (A phone call will be made to parents each time the child has been marked with an unauthorised absence code and no reason has been given for the absence).
- Contact the school on the subsequent days of absence as necessary.
- Provide evidence where possible, supporting the reason for absence.

#### What we will do if Attendance is a Concern:

- Letters will be sent to parents to alert them to the concerns school has about their child's attendance and/or punctuality.
- Invite you into the school to discuss the situation with either the Home School Link Worker/ Welfare Officer or Attendance Lead or Officer.
- Undertake interventions and offer support where possible/appropriate, through school resources and/or outside agencies.
- Use Royal Borough of Greenwich's Guidance to Improve Attendance.

- Undertake Home visits, as necessary.
- Hold Pre-referral meetings to address irregular school attendance, in the presence of the Officer from the Attendance Advisory Service of the Local Authority.
- Undertake a referral to the Attendance Advisory Service if your child's **unauthorised** absence reaches 10% or more.

#### The Attendance Advisory Officer:

Parents are expected to contact school at an early stage and to work with the school staff in resolving any problems related to attendance together. This is nearly always successful. If difficulties cannot be resolved this way, and unauthorised absences continue, the school may refer to the Attendance Advisory Service. The Attendance Advisory Officer will try to resolve the situation by agreement but, if other ways of trying to improve your child's attendance have failed and unauthorised absences persist, the Attendance Advisory Service can use sanctions such as Penalty Notices or Prosecutions in the Magistrates Court.

Parents may wish to contact the Attendance Advisory Service themselves to ask seek advice or information. They are independent of the school and will give impartial advice. Their telephone number is 020 8921 8510.

#### Lateness:

Poor punctuality is not acceptable and is categorised as 'irregular school attendance'. If your child misses the start of the day they can miss spending time with their peers, their class teacher and getting vital information/news for the day. The late arrival of a child(ren) disrupts lessons, places the child at a disadvantage and can be embarrassing for them. All of which can contribute to a reluctance to attend school.

	Christ Church	St Mary Magdalene Woolwich	St Mary Magdalene Greenwich Peninsula	St Mary Magdalene Secondary Phase
School Start time	8.55am	8:55am	8:55am	8.45am
School end time	3:10pm	3:10pm	3:10pm	3.15pm – Y7 & 8 3.30pm – Y9, 10, 11 & 12

Fifteen minutes **after the school start time** the registers will be closed. In accordance with the regulations, if your child arrives after that time they will receive a mark that shows them to be on site, but this will **not** count as a present mark and it will mean they have an unauthorised absence.

Poor punctuality is classified as 'irregular school attendance' and action will be undertaken to address it, following the Federation's attendance procedure.

If your child has a persistent late record you will be asked to meet with the School Attendance Officer/Senior Leader to address and hopefully resolve the problem.

It is very important to inform us at any time if you are experiencing problems getting your child to school on time as our Home School Link Worker can offer advice about this.

#### **Every Minute Counts**

As well as being absent a lot from school effecting your child's development, being late also has a big effect on their learning time, please look at the table below:

Lateness = Lost Learning		
(figures below are calculated over the school year)		
5 mins late each day 3 days lost		
10 mins late each day	6.5 days lost	

15 mins late each day	10 days lost
20 mins late each day	13 days lost
30 mins late each day	19 days lost

#### School Targets, Projects and Special Initiatives:

The school has targets to improve attendance and punctuality and your child has an important part to play in meeting targets.

The minimum level of attendance and punctuality for this Federation is 96% attendance and we will keep you updated regularly about progress to reach this level and how your child's attendance and punctuality compares.

Our target is to achieve better than this however because we know that good attendance is the key to successful schooling.

Through the school year we monitor absences and punctuality to show us where improvements need to be made.

#### Our Federation Procedures for improving attendance:

- Our Home School Link Worker/ Student Welfare Team or Office Staff will contact parents by either phone call or text by 9.45am if a student is absent and the school office has not been informed of the absence.
- We hold an induction interview/meeting before the child enters school if their previous school has reported poor attendance.
- All new parents are given a letter outlining that the school expectations with regard to attendance.
- There is a series of letter proformas we issue in relation to attendance matters which will be sent to parent/ carers when there are concerns regarding attendance.
- Each of our Campuses has:
  - 1- a member of the Senior Leadership Team who oversees the Attendance procedures and policy.
  - 2- A member of the office Administration team who enters all attendance data onto the school's SIMS system, which is used for data analysis, and attendance reports.
  - 3- Home School Link Worker who can support families when attendance concerns arise. In our secondary phase we also have two Student Welfare officers who can support students.
- The school works very closely with the Attendance Advisory Service and is visited by an officer every fortnight at secondary and every month at primary. Parents who have not followed the school's attendance guide are referred to the AAO (Attendance Advisory Officer) if attendance continues to be poor.
- At every campus senior leaders award 100% attendance and punctuality certificates at the end of each school term. Alongside this the names of all pupils with 100% termly attendance and punctuality are put in a draw. The names are drawn for a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize.
- Pupils achieving 100% attendance for the entire school year receive a special certificate and prize.
- On our end of year reports we report on attendance and punctuality.
- The designated Senior Leader with responsibility for attendance will work closely with parents, the school attendance officer for the Royal Borough of Greenwich and the child to improve poor performance, in line with borough and national policies.

#### Child Missing Education (CME)

Any child who ceases to attend a school, without notification as to their new address and/or the school they are transferring to, becomes a '**Child Missing in Education**'. Any child in this category is reported to the Child Missing in Education Officer at the Local Authority, who will follow up the matter under section 436A of the Education Act 1996 and Safeguarding legislation, as necessary. This can involve the police.

The attendance procedures are crucial to ensuring the safety of all children. If a child has been absent from school for 20 consecutive days without good reason and their whereabouts are unknown, the school has a

legal obligation to report the child as missing education to the relevant local authority. In accordance with DFE regulations the child may be removed from the school roll.

#### Communication – What we Need to Know

#### **Telephone Numbers:**

There are times when we need to contact parents about lots of things, including absence, so we need to have your contact numbers at all times. Please help us to help you and your child by making sure we have always got current contact details including phone numbers for yourself and at least one other nominated persons who are your emergency contacts.

#### Home Address:

Please inform us of any change of address and the date you are moving immediately.

#### Removing a Pupil from Our School:

If you make the decision to transfer your child to another school as a matter of priority you need to provide the school with all of the necessary details.

In line with legislation/statutory guidance now in force, schools are required to inform the local authority when adding or removing a pupil from their school roll.

Within the Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG), the notification is made via an online school reporting web form.

We will provide you with a Leavers form, as we need to know your new address (if relevant) and the school your child is transferring to. If we do not receive this information and your child ceases to attend our school, they become a 'Child Missing in Education'. \*The procedure will be followed as detailed above.

#### **Elective Home Education:**

If you make the decision to educate your child at home, you are required to advise us of this in writing. Once the letter/email is received, we will remove your child from the school roll and advise the Elective Home Education Officer of the Local Authority, who will make contact with you regarding this matter. If a letter/email is not received, your child remains on the roll of the school and their absence is treated as unauthorised. \*Action to address the unauthorised absence, will be followed as detailed above.

	Christ Church	St Mary Magdalene Woolwich	St Mary Magdalene Peninsula Primary Phase	St Mary Magdalene Peninsula Secondary Phase	St Mary Magdalene Peninsula Sixth Form
Senior Leader	Miss Reid	Mrs Ringmo	Mrs Ajayi	Mrs Pett	Mrs Kwabi
Home School Link Worker	Miss Lamont	Miss T Thomas	Miss Williams	Miss A Hinds	n/a
Student Welfare Support	n/a	n/a	n/a	Ms Crabb & Miss Joseph	Mrs Newington
Attendance Admin Officer	Mrs Beaumont	Mrs Turner	Mrs Shanahan	Ms Van Der Mass	Miss T Hinds

#### The people responsible for attendance matters in the school are:

#### **DFE & Governor Monitoring**

The school complies with the requirement to complete the DFE Attendance Monitoring form each term. This form is completed by the Headteachers. Attendance data is also sent to the RBG's Standards and Strategy team and Attendance Advisory Service.

Each term's Executive Co-Headteacher's report to Governors contains an update of the attendance statistics within the school for that term.

#### Specific Guidance and Procedures for Sixth Form (Key Stage 5)

Section 2 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 requires young people to continue in education or training, until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17. As young adults our Sixth form students are expected to:

Be on time every day, aiming for 100% attendance and follow the absence protocols if they are unable to attend school. As with other year groups the student or parent must inform us of any absence.

<u>If the absence can be foreseen</u>, then students must apply for authorisation at least **2 days** in advance by completing an absence request form. This is available in the student support area on the sixth form website. You must submit this form alongside any required evidence. Absence taken for foreseeable reasons will not be authorised retrospectively.

#### Absences which cannot be foreseen in advance:

In the case of an unforeseeable absence, we will consider whether or not this should be authorised. In such cases you should notify the school on the day in question; unless there is a good reason why this could not be done. This should be done by a phone call to the Sixth Form Administrator or Student Support Officer by <u>8:40am on the day of the absence.</u>

#### Sickness Absence:

In the event of an absence due to sickness you should notify the school on the day(s) in question; unless there is a good reason why this could not be done. This should be done as above.

Absences will be authorised or unauthorised as set out in this policy on page 4. In addition to these Sixth Formers may also be permitted an authorised absence for a career/ further education interview or a test/ exam eg. driving test.

#### Legislation and guidance

This policy meets the requirements of the <u>school attendance guidance</u> from the Department for Education (DfE), and refers to the DfE's statutory guidance on <u>school attendance parental responsibility measures</u>. These documents are drawn from the following legislation setting out the legal powers and duties that govern school attendance:

- <u>The Education Act 1996</u>
- <u>The Education Act 2002</u>
- The Education and Inspections Act 2006
- The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006
- The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2010
- The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2011
- The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013
- The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2016
- The Education (Penalty Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013

ALONGSIDE THIS POLICY THERE ARE GUIDELINE DOCUMENTS FOR USE BY SCHOOL STAFF ONLY, THESE INCLUDE:

- Appendix 1 AAS Flow Chart (Attendance Advisory Flow Chart) Flow Chart Part 2
- Appendix 2 CME (Child Missing in Education) Referral Form
- Appendix 3 CME Guidance for Schools
- Appendix 4 Leaving School form for Parents
- Appendix 5 Pre-Referral and Early Help Assessment Checklist
- Appendix 6 Referral Form for AAS
- Appendix 7 Schools Data Template Primary
- Appendix 8 Schools Data Template Secondary
- Appendix 9 Attendance Letter templates

Appendix 1

# Attendance Procedures Flow Chart – Part 1



#### Pre referral meetings

School to minute the pre-referral meeting and to ask parents to sign both 'Parenting Contract' and minutes (using 'PRM/Early Help Assessment form & TAC Checklist).

¥

The copies of both are to be kept to support any subsequent referrals to the AAS.

Suggested questions School to ask parents if parent/carer attend the meeting:

- Housing issues
- Issues with benefits
- Issues with Home Office (Asylum/Leave to stay)
- Health (Parent/Child)
- Parenting difficulties
- Domestic Violence
- Substance misuse
- Is the Pupil at risk of sexual exploitation

## V

### **Referrals to the AAS**

Case to be discussed with schools AAO and if agreed, a referral form is to be completed in full, signed and dated with following documents attached

- Letters, 1, 2 & 3 (and any additional communications school have had with parents)
- Up to date pupil attendance
- Pupil school report/EHC Plan
- Attach the minutes of any meetings held in school, or any other communications with parents.
- Any additional information such as school support being provided to pupil (i.e. Learning Mentor/School Counselling/CAMHS) and the details of any other agencies involved with the family

->

whether or not a EHA or TAC

should be

If any issues

raised the School

should consider

around are

undertaken EH referral

- MASH referral

# Royal Greenwich Children's Services Child Missing Education Referral Form

Referral date School name / last known school   Referring Agency Local authority   Name of referrer Designation   Contact number Email <b>1. REASON FOR REFERRAL</b> Reason for referral <b>2. PUPIL DETAILS</b> UPN   Surname   DOB   Gender   SEN type   Ethnicity   LAC   First language
Name of referrer Designation   Contact number Email     I. REASON FOR REFERRAL   Reason for referral   2. PUPIL DETAILS   UPN   Surname   DOB   Gender   SEN type   Ethnicity   First language     Pupil premium     SALT
Contact number Email     1. REASON FOR REFERRAL   Reason for referral   2. PUPIL DE TAILS     UPN   Surname   DOB   Gender   SEN type   Ethnicity   First language     Pupil premium     SALT
1. REASON FOR REFERRAL         Reason for referral         2. PUPIL DETAILS         UPN         Surname         DOB         Gender         SEN type         Ethnicity         First language
Reason for referral         2. PUPIL DETAILS         UPN       Year group         Surname       Forename         DOB       Gender       SEN type         Ethnicity       LAC         First language       Pupil premium       SALT
2. PUPIL DETAILS         UPN       Year group         Surname       Forename         DOB       Gender       SEN type         Ethnicity       LAC         First language       Pupil premium       SALT
UPN     Year group       Surname     Forename       DOB     Gender     SEN type       Ethnicity     LAC       First language     Pupil premium     SALT
Surname  Forename    DOB  Gender    Ethnicity  LAC    First language  Pupil premium
DOB     Gender     SEN type       Ethnicity     LAC       First language     Pupil premium
Ethnicity     LAC       First language     Pupil premium   SALT
First language SALT
If new to UK, please state country of origin
Current address Postcode
New address (if known) Postcode
Who does this child live with?
Has this case been discussed with your school's AAO and/or CME Office       AAO         Date on roll       Date last attended school       Date off roll
Date of intention to remove from roll
GP details
Are there current Early Help Services involvement? EHS Contact person
Are there any safeguarding concerns?
Please state below action taken to address concerns (i.e. MASH referral - name of Social Worker)
3. SIBLING DETAILS (CME referral form is required for each child)
Name         Date of birth         Gender         School (if known)         Local authority
4. PARENT/CARER DETAILS
Surname Forename
Relationship to Child     Contact number     1     2
Email Postcode
Address Postcode

Dog in the h	iouse			
Surname			Forename	
Relationship	to Child		Contact nun	nber 1 2
Email .				<b>.</b>
Address				Postcode
First languag	e		Interprete	er required
		hy a home visit would be ha		• •
Dog in the h				
		F OTHER PERSONS		
	T DE TAILS OI			
Name		Relationship to child	Contact number	Email
			•	
5 ACTION 1	AKEN BY SC	HOOI		•••
Date	Action		Outcom	<b>e</b>
Dute	Action		Guiconn	
	ļ			
Additional in	formation			
Form comple	eted by			
Designation	-			
Telephone Email		eturn the completed form via	email and ensure that	it is password protected.
	Please r			
		Email: children-missing-		
		Sylvia Francis dance Advisory Service 1st F	, Greenwich CME Of	ficer

# CME Guidance & Checklist for Schools

Timeline	NAME OF PUPIL CLASS	Date sent or done	Date reply/ no
	· · · · · · ·		reply
			-r 7
<b>F</b>	First Day of unexplained absence		
From; DAY I Of Absence	Normal School Attendance Action to be Undertaken: First day/daily calling is advised for any child who is absent without communication from parent.		
Absence	If the child is subject to a Child Protection Plan, a LAC or a known vulnerable child, Children's Social Care, must be informed at once or in line with agreed CP/LAC or CIN plans.		
	A Child Missing Their Education is a Safeguarding Concern. If a child attends school erratically or ceases to attend school, for 'whatever reason', Schools are expected to undertake action to address this, following School Attendance Action and Safeguarding Procedures, as detailed in the Education Act 1996 and Subsequent Statutory Guidance (Documents Accessible via www.legislation.gov.uk); 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'. 'Children Missing Education'.		
	• Any danger factors and/or the possibility of the child(ren) being exposed to CSE/FGM/Radicalisation and Gang Relations should always to be considered.		
	Schools should undertake liaison with Children's Social Care and or the Police as appropriate.		
From;	The school should seek information from all available sources;		
DAY 2	<ul> <li>For example; Emergency contacts previously supplied by the family, staff, other parents, pupils. Other schools where siblings are known to attend, who may be aware of the family's circumstances as they may know, for example, that the family were intending to move or go on holiday. (Admissions can provide sibling information).</li> <li>Use all forms of communication as possible and 'keep records' (e-mails/telephone calls/letters).</li> </ul>		
<b>F</b>	• If applicable, use translation services.		
From; DAY 3	<ul> <li>Where no communication has been received and/or no information has been obtained:</li> <li>Home visit to be undertaken by school staff to ascertain 'child is safe'.</li> <li>If no response, a letter should be hand delivered, requesting contact and advising that if necessary, liaison with Children's Social Care and the Police will be initiated.</li> <li>If schools are aware of any siblings at other schools, ring siblings schools to check for updated contact phone numbers and to see if they have any additional information.</li> </ul>		
Between	School to continue with their actions and enquiries adhering to <b>School Action/CME</b>		
Day 3 &	and Safeguarding Procedures, to try and establish the whereabouts and safety of		
10	the child (ren)		
	School's to contact known involved agencies, seeking information;		
	School's to contact Children's Social Care (MASH Team) advising of concern		
	<ul> <li>and requesting any known information.</li> <li>SEN, School Nurse, Health visitors, GP, Internal/external partner agencies &amp; Housing etc</li> </ul>		

DAYII	If there is no response to letters/email/phone messages and home visits - The school must liaise with their AAO (where applicable) or the CME Officer.         • Joint reasonable enquiries should be undertaken	
	School must send a letter to last known address advising of the possible removal from roll of the pupil, following 'twentieth' day of unauthorised absence. (Advising the parent/carer of that date).	
	School to request parent/carer makes contact with the school.	
	Where appropriate seek advice & assistance from the Greenwich Child Missing Education Officer.	

DAYII	If there is no response to letters/email/phone messages and home visits - The school must liaise with their AAO (where applicable) or the CME Officer.	
	Joint reasonable enquiries should be undertaken	
	<ul> <li>School must send a letter to last known address advising of the possible removal from roll of the pupil, following 'twentieth' day of unauthorised absence. (Advising the parent/carer of that date).</li> <li>School to request parent/carer makes contact with the school.</li> </ul>	
	Where appropriate seek advice & assistance from the Greenwich Child Missing Education Officer.	
Between day 11 & 20	School to continue with their actions and enquiries adhering to School Action/CME and Safeguarding Procedures, to try and establish the whereabouts and safety of the child (ren).	
	<ul> <li>School to Continue to undertake school action to address absence.</li> <li>School to discuss with their AAO (where applicable) whether a referral to the AAS would be appropriate, ie In the case of 'Extended Leave of Absence'</li> <li>AAO/CME Officer to support school in undertaking 'Joint Reasonable Enquiries'.</li> </ul>	
Between day 15-& 20	<ul> <li>If no communication received from parent/carer and/or child(ren) has not returned;</li> <li>School to communicate (via Telephone/Email) with the CME Officer advising that the school intend to remove the pupil from roll on the identified date, should the pupil not return before-hand, seeking any additional advise/support.</li> </ul>	
DAY 21	Whereabouts still unknown/child has not returned: Pupil(s) can lawfully be deleted from the Schools Admission Register as at the end of the 20 <sup>th</sup> day as long as the 'Grounds for Deletion' under Regulation 8 of the Education Regulations 2006 as amended (Education Act 1996), have been met'.	
	<ul> <li>The Head teacher/Proprietor of the Educational Establishment with responsibility for the contents of the Admissions Register, authorises the decision to remove the child(ren) from roll.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>School to send a letter to the last known address informing parent/carer that pupil is now off roll and referred to the Greenwich CMEO as a 'Child Missing Education'.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>School to inform parent/carer that Children's Social Care and the Police will be notified.</li> </ul>	
	• School to advise parent/carer of school place re-application process, should the family return to area (UK).	
DAY 21	Referral to be sent to the CMEO via e-mail cc'd to schools AAO (if appropriate)	
	<ul> <li><u>children-missing-education@royalgreenwich.gov.uk</u></li> <li>Schools are to attach a copy of this checklist, all correspondence/communications and an attendance certificate for the current and previous academic years, to the referral.</li> </ul>	

Upon Receipt Of the CME Referral	<ul> <li>School (copy to Schools AAO) receive confirmation from the CMEO that the referral has been accepted and that the pupil(s) will be placed on the CME database.</li> <li>Please Note;</li> <li>If the CME procedure has not been followed appropriately and in accordance with legislation/regulations and statutory guidance, the referral will be returned to the school, with the requirement that the pupil's name is reinstated on the</li> </ul>
	school roll.
Upon Receipt Of the CME Referra	<ul> <li>Please Note;</li> <li>If the CME procedure has not been followed appropriately and in accordance</li> </ul>
DAY 2 Onward	

#### Exceptions to making a 'Greenwich' CME Referral

#### Pupil advised to have moved to another Local Authority in England

- If you are made aware that a child is moving to another Local Authority, will not be returning to your school and you have the new address and/or school, please complete schools pupil files/database with all relevant information and advise the appropriate receiving Local Authority.
  - o Schools AAO or the CME Officer can assist with contact details of the appropriate LA.
  - Once you have confirmation that information has been put on to their database, you may remove the child from roll and complete the Royal Borough of Greenwich 'On/Off roll – School Reporting' web form.
  - Upload the pupil details, normally via School/School/CTF.
- If the pupil moves to a new address in another Local Authority, without an identified school and the distance to travel is deemed too far, then the parent should be advised to contact the Admissions Department of the new authority to establish a school place.
  - The above actions would still be followed
  - A CME referral is completed and sent to the new Local Authority.

#### Pupil believed/advised to moving abroad;

- If you are aware of a child who is relocating abroad, you need to obtain a forwarding address, name of the school and any proof you can get regarding the relocation ie... proof of flight/ferry details.
  - Once this information has been obtained, the school are required to e-mail/contact the school named, for confirmation that the pupil(s) are on roll/to be offered a school place.
  - Proof of the pupil/family relocating abroad, is required before they can be removed from roll.
  - As long as whereabouts established, follow action for removal from roll, as above.
- 'Gone abroad' is not enough to warrant off rolling without checks being made beforehand.
- If information/proof regarding the whereabouts of the family having moved abroad, is not provided/made available, please follow the CME guidelines.

#### If Pupil Located Following a CME Referral

• If the school subsequently receives information as to the whereabouts of a pupil, previously referred as a CME, they are requested to contact the CME Officer immediately, advising them accordingly, so that investigations can cease and records amended.

# Appendix 4

# Leaving School Form for Parents

Please complete this form if your child is leaving the school and return to the school office. If you are not sure of these details yet, please fill in this form as fully as you can before your child leaves. Please subsequently update these details as they become available.

Why you need to complete this form:

- Your current school is expected to transfer information to the new school as quickly as • possible.
- The School and Local Authority have a duty to track your child's education. •
- If you fail to provide details to either the school/local authority further checks will be carried • out to determine your child's new educational provision which may include contacting Social Services and the police.
- These checks will be undertaken in the interest of safeguarding and to ensure every child is • receiving suitable education as legally required by the Education Act 1996.

Name of Pupil	
DOB	
Class	
Leaving date and/or date of move	
Reason for leaving school	
New Address (Even if Abroad) (if not known, please provide town/country/area)	
Name and address of new school (if not known please contact us with the details as soon as you know them)	
Please provide us your contact names	Parent/carer 1:
	Parent/carer 2:
	Other contact:
Please provide us you're your contact phone numbers	Parent/carer 1:
	Parent/carer 2:
	Other contact:
Please provide your email addresses	Parent/carer 1:
	Parent/carer 2:

	Other contact:
If moving abroad;	Please provide proof of travel; Flight/Ferry Itinerary (Email confirmation from travel company) and/or Copies of tickets with names of those travelling
If moving abroad:	Name:
Please provide contact details of a friend/relative in the UK who is not moving with you and will be able to contact you, should we not be able to	Address: Phone Number:
	Email:

Parent/Carer Name	
Signature	
Date	

Any other details (Please provide any other information if appropriate. For instance if you have applied for a new school place)

School use only – Date form returned to the school office:

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

Appendix 5

Pre-Referral Meeting &

# Early Help Assessment checklist

l:	do	b:		S	chool:
	( A	%	UA	%)	Punctuality (Amount of lates registered)
Name of Parent / Carer Address:					DoB:
dob:	Scho	ol:			
dob:	Scho	ol:			
	Scho	ol:	<u></u>	<u></u>	
ls:					
ool:					
il & Parent/Carer:					
	Current Attendance% (Attendance Report to be attached) Name of Parent / Carer Address: (Present/not present) delete as necessar 	Current Attendance       % ( A         (Attendance Report to be attached)       Name of Parent / Carer.         Address:	Current Attendance       % (A %         (Attendance Report to be attached)       Name of Parent / Carer         Address:       (Present/not present) delete as necessary	Current Attendance% (A % UA         (Attendance Report to be attached)         Name of Parent / Carer	Name of Parent / Carer

#### Targets Set :

- Pupil to attend school both regularly and on time
- Medical evidence to be provided to school if absent due to illness (Copy of a prescription for medicine, Hospital or GP letter, Appointment card (emergency appointments only)
- Further unauthorised absence could result in a referral to the Greenwich Attendance Advisory Service
- •
- •
- •
- Review Date : .....

Verbal Warning Given? Y / N

•	Education?		Y / N / Not Sure
•	Safe from harm? (At risk of sexual	al exploitation/FGM)	Y / N / Not Sure
•	Behaviour in School? (Number o	f fixed term exclusions – PSP-PEP)	Y / N / Not Sure
•	Housing//Employment & Finance	issues?	Y / N / Not Sure
•	Family/Social Relationships (Dor	nestic Violence/Substance Misuse?	Y / N / Not Sure
	Health/Davalanment issues? (De	reast/Obild)	Y / N / Not Sure
•	Health/Development issues? (Pa	renvoniia)	Y / N / Not Sure
N.	B – Parents/Carers please be	advised that by signing this f	orm, you are consenting to any
in	ormation thereon to be share ur son/daughter becomes a r	ed with the Greenwich Attenda	nce Advisory Service in the event that
	Signatures:	Pupil:	
		Parent/Carer:	
	School Representat	ive:	
	(Designation)		
	AAO: (If present)		

# Appendix 6

# ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH CHILDREN'S SERVICES ATTENDANCE ADVISORY SERVICE

# **REFERRAL FORM**

# **PERSONAL DETAILS**:

Name of Pupil:	School:						
Date of Birth:	School contact number:						
Gender:	Tutor/Class Teacher:						
Address:	Year group:						
Postcode:	Pupil Premium Y/N						
Home Contact Number:							
Known medical condition: Y/N	EHC Y/N – If yes number of hours ( )						
State below:							
	Education Health Care plan attached						
Overall Attendance:	Lateness issue Y/N Number of lates:						
Sessions of Absence: <u>A UA</u>	Total time late:						
Percentage of Absence: A UA.							
FAMILY DETAILS: Name of parent/carer with	whom child lives:						
Parent/Carers Dob:							
Address:							
Family's first language: Inte	rpreter required: Y/N						
Name of Sibling:	Name of Sibling:						
Dob:	Dob:						
Address:	Address:						
School:	School:						
ESSENTIAL INFORMATION(please tick box where a	ippropriate and attached evidence)						
Early Help Assessment Date: Refe	erred to MASH Date referred:						
Referred to Early Help Date: Re	ferred to CAMHS Date referred:						
Name of Social worker/Support worker (if know	vn): Contact number:						
Looked After Pupil: Y/N	IF LAC/Authority Responsible for Pupil:						
Other agencies involved (specify):	Child Protection Plan Y/N						

# REASON FOR REFERRAL (please give brief details)

School Representatives View – Please mention any interventions/referrals or support offered by the school

Parent and Pupils Given Reason for Level of Absence/Punctuality Issues raised at the Pre Referral meeting:

Date: .....

Signed: .....

Designation:....

Attendance Advisory Service

1<sup>st</sup> Floor The Woolwich Centre 35 Wellington Street London SE18 6HQ Tel: 020 921 8510 Fax: 020 8921 8514

# Appendix 7

#### Primary School Information 2021-22

#### Schools Percentages Monthly

School	09/21	10/21	11/21	12/21	01/22	02/22	03/22	04/22	05/22	06/22	07/22
Whole School %											
Year R %											
Year 1 %											
Year 2 %											
Year 3 %											
Year 4 %											
Year 5%											
Year 6%											

#### Schools Percentages

<u>Terms 1 – 6</u>

School	End of Term 1 (Oct)	A/UA	1%	End of Term 2 (Dec)	A/UA	1%	End of Term 3 (Feb)	A/UA	.%	End of Term 4 (Apr)	A/UA	1%	End of Term 5 (May)	A/UA	%	End of Term 6 (July)	A/UA%	
Whole School %	%			%			%			%			%			%		
Pupils on Roll																		
PA Pupil numbers at 10%																		
PA at 10%																		_
Year R						1												
Year 1																		
Year 2																		
Year 3																		
Year 4																		
Year 5																		
Year 6																		

Whole School Attendance LA Target 95% + Persistent Absence Target – Primaries 0% - Secondaries Minus 5%

\*\* PA % is the number of pupils (Years N - 11 ), reaching identified PA sessions level (10%), divided by number of pupils on roll X 100

# Appendix 8

# Secondary School Information 2021-22

#### Schools Percentages Monthly

School		09/21	10/21	11/21	12/21	01/22	02/22	03/22	04/22	05/22	06/22	07/22
Whole Sch	nool %											
Year 7	%											
Year 8	%											
Year 9	%											
Year 10	%											
Year 11	%											

#### Schools Percentages <u>Terms 1 – 6</u>

-----

School	End of Term 1 (Oct)	A/UA	4%	End of Term 2 (Dec)	A/UA	4%	End of Term 3 (Feb)	A/U/	4%	End of Term 4 (Apr)	A/U/	4%	End of Term 5 (May)	A/UA	.%	End of Term 6 (July)	A/UA	۸%
Whole School %	%			%			%			%			%			%		
Pupils on Roll																		
PA Pupil numbers at 10%																		
PA at 10%																		
Year 7																		
Year 8																		
Year 9																		
Year 10																		
Year 11																		

Whole School Attendance LA Target 95% + Persistent Absence Target – Primaries 0% - Secondaries Minus 5%

\*\* PA % is the number of pupils (Years 7 - 11), reaching identified PA sessions level (10%), divided by number of pupils on roll X 100

# Appendix 9 - Letters sent home to parents

# FAST TRACK TO IMPROVED ATTENDANCE

### Date:

Dear Parent/Guardian

With effect from September 2015 any pupil with less than 90% school attendance is regarded as a Persistent Absentee. This is a national threshold set by Government.

The **Royal Borough of Greenwich** and .....**School** are following Government guidance and implementing the '**Fast Track**' scheme in this school from ..... to prevent pupils becoming Persistent Absentees (any pupil with less than 90% school attendance).

The scheme requires that all problems which would affect a pupil's school attendance be dealt with promptly. If your child meets the criteria you will be informed by an additional letter and you will be asked to discuss this matter further with us. We may, if necessary, undertake an Early Help Assessment.

In order to avoid any confusion if your child is away for legitimate reasons please ensure you follow this guidance:

- 1. Telephone the school immediately on the 1st day that your child is too ill to attend and follow it up with a letter upon your child's return.
- 2. Wherever possible make any dentist/doctor/hospital appointments outside of school hours.
- 3. Do not keep your child away from school if there is an issue in school; contact the school to discuss the problem with a senior member of staff.
- 4. Do not keep your child away from school for unnecessary reasons, i.e. birthdays, holidays, relatives' visits, shopping trips, your own ill health.

Yours sincerely

Name	
Address	
Date:	

Dear .....

# <u>Re: (pupil's name) Dob:</u> <u>Letter A1</u>

During the weekly register check, it has come to my notice that (Child's name) attendance is now....%. Please see attendance certificate attached.

As you are aware, the acceptable level of attendance is over 95% and any child with less than 90% attendance is regarded by the Government as a 'Persistent Absentee'.

Therefore I will be monitoring your child's attendance during the next few weeks and if there any further absences we may contact you again to discuss the matter further.

If you are experiencing difficulties in relation to the issues raised in this letter or you wish to discuss the matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number.

Yours sincerely,

Senior Leader for Attendance

Name
Address
Date:
Dear

# <u>Re: (pupil's name) Dob:</u> <u>Letter A2</u>

I wrote to you on......(date) informing you that your son/daughter's attendance was a cause for concern. Since that date there have been further absences recorded and as a result you will now be required to supply evidence to support any future absence due to illness. See attendance report attached.

**Suggested acceptable forms of Medical Evidence to be supplied to the school**: A Doctor's/Hospital appointment letter, a copy of a prescription for medicine, the prescribed medicine packaging itself, provided it bears the name of the child and date dispensed thereon.

If there is no immediate improvement, you may be invited into school to discuss this matter further.

If you are experiencing any difficulties in relation to the issues raised in this letter or you wish to discuss the matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number.

Yours sincerely

Senior Leader for Attendance

Name Address

Date:....

Dear .....

### <u>Re: (pupil's name) Dob:</u> <u>Letter A3</u>

During the weekly register check, it has come to my notice that despite having sent you two previous letters dated...... and ......, outlining our concerns regarding your son/daughter's attendance, further unauthorised absence has been recorded.

In order to try and resolve this matter and improve the situation, I would like to invite you to attend a meeting with myself, to discuss the matter further and look at a positive way forward.

The date I am proposing is <u>day....date....year.....time....am/pm venue.</u>

If this date/time is not suitable, please contact me on the above number, as soon as possible, so that a mutually convenient time, can be arranged.

Failure to meet or communicate that this date/time is not suitable, could result in your child being referred to the Royal Greenwich Attendance Advisory Service, who may consider initiating formal action against you.

Yours sincerely,

Senior Leader for Attendance

Failure to ensure regular and punctual school attendance may result in the issuing of a penalty notice

and/or prosecution under section 444 of the Education Act 1996.

Name Address

Date:....

Dear .....

# <u>Re: (pupil's name) Dob:</u> <u>Unauthorised Leave of Absence</u> <u>Letter A4</u>

Your child has been absent from school this academic year, and the absence is recorded as an unauthorised leave of absence, specifically due to a holiday during term time.

I have to advise you that should your child have any further unauthorised absences, you place yourself at risk of being referred to the Attendance Advisory Service, whereby formal action could be taken against you, in the form of a £120 Penalty Notice under the **Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003** or legal action under **Section 444 of the Education Act 1996.** 

In order to enable the school to authorise any further absences, I recommend that you provide medical evidence to the school to support the absences as being due to ill health.

For information; acceptable medical evidence is a Doctor/Hospital letter, a copy of a prescription for medicine, or the medicine packaging itself.

Please be advised to undertake your parental responsibility and ensure the regular and punctual school attendance of your child, to enable them to receive the education they are entitled to and to avoid formal legal action.

If you wish to discuss this matter or you experience any difficulties in ensuring the regular school attendance of your child, please make contact with ...... Our Home School Link Worker at the school on ......, or myself.

Yours sincerely,

Senior Leader for Attendance

Dear .....

# <u>Re: (pupil's name) Dob:</u> <u>Letter 1P</u>

During the Register check, it has come to my attention that between ...... and ...... the above-named pupil has been late for ..... occasions. This has resulted in them missing .....**hrs** ..... **mins** of education.

Many parents do not realise that punctuality is monitored in the same way as attendance and persistent lateness can result in Court Action.

Please take appropriate action to address this situation. If there is a legitimate reason for ongoing punctuality issues, we would appreciate it if you could explain in writing. Your child's attendance will be monitored for the next few weeks until the matter is resolved. If you are experiencing any difficulties that relate to your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the school to discuss any concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Senior Leader for Attendance

Dear .....

# <u>Re: (pupil's name) Dob:</u> <u>Letter 2P</u>

During the Register check, it has come to my attention that your child's punctuality is still giving cause for concern. Since my previous letter, the above-named student has arrived late for \_\_\_\_\_\_ out of a possible \_\_\_\_\_ mornings with a total of ......hours......minutes off missed education.

As a result, the school will closely monitor your child's attendance and raise the matter with the Attendance Advisory Officer.

Please take action to resolve the situation. If you need any support or advice, please do not hesitate to contact the school to discuss your concerns. We would be happy to meet up with you at a mutually convenient time.

If there are any legitimate reasons for \_\_\_\_\_''s lateness, please inform us, in writing, as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Senior Leader for Attendance

Dear .....

# <u>Re: (pupil's name) Dob:</u> <u>Letter 3P</u>

During the Register check, it has come to my attention that despite having sent you two letters dates \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ outlining our concerns, your child's punctuality has not satisfactorily improved.

Therefore, I would like to invite you to attend a pre-referral meeting at **(insert school name)** with **(insert name of school representative)** and the Attendance Advisory Officer. The date I am proposing is:

### Date:

Time:

If this is not convenient, please contact me as soon as possible on the number above, and I will try to arrange a more suitable time. If you do not attend this meeting, and/or your child's attendance / punctuality does not significantly improve, we will have no alternative but to formally refer you to the Attendance Advisory Service, which may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice or even Court action.

Yours sincerely,

Senior Leader for Attendance

Dear .....

RE: (student name) Attendance

According to our weekly attendance checks, we have noticed that ...... attendance is currently showing at ......%. As you are aware, the acceptable level of attendance is 95% or above. Please find ...... attendance breakdown attached.

As a result of a low attendance report, we will now be monitoring your child's attendance closely. If additional absences occur, we will be contacting you to discuss this matter further.

We try to encourage all students to attend school on time every day and we would appreciate it if you would support us in making this happen.

If you are experiencing difficulties with getting your child to school or you have any queries regarding this letter, please do give us a call on the number below or email the Sixth Form Team directly on sixthformadmissions@koinoniafederation.com.

Yours Sincerely

Sixth Form Attendance Team

Dear .....

RE: (student name) Punctuality

During the weekly register check, it has come to my notice that .....is regularly arriving late for school. ......punctuality report is currently showing as ......%.

It is compulsory for all Sixth Form students to be on school premises at **8:45am every day**, ready to be registered in their Family Groups. If a student does not have a first period, they are still required to be registered at 8:45am along with all other students.

Lateness causes disruption in the class and means that your child is missing valuable learning time and this will have a detrimental effect on their educational achievement. Please help to support us in ensuring that your child attends regularly & punctually in future and that you or your child inform the school of the reason for lateness if necessary.

If you are experiencing difficulties in relation to the issues raised in this letter or you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me on the number below or email me directly on <u>sixthformadmissions@koinoniafederation.com</u>.

Yours sincerely

Sixth Form Attendance Team