



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT KESTON

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



As part of our commitment to improving the attainment of our pupils we are required to monitor pupil attendance on a regular basis. During our regular monitoring of pupil attendance, we identify any pupil whose attendance causes concern.

**Your child's level of attendance for this school year now falls into this bracket and is currently below our target of 96%.**

Whilst 96% would be a fantastic result in test, 96% when talking about attendance, equates to missing 1 and a half weeks of lessons across an academic year. This is the equivalent of 35 lessons or 35 hours of learning. Which will have a significant impact on your child's learning.

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## Keston Actions for Low Attendance



### Lower than 96%

Your child becomes an attendance focus child with the Designated Senior Leader responsible for Attendance and the school's attendance officer. You will have received this information leaflet because your child **does not have adequate attendance**. Please contact the school for support if you need it.



### Lower than 92%

You may receive our first formal letter with regards to your child's attendance. You may also receive a phone call from school to discuss how we can support you. You could be called to a meeting to set targets to try and improve your child's attendance to **avoid them becoming a persistent absentee**. Your child and your family will be closely monitored and supported.



### Lower than 90%

Our school Education Welfare service may become involved. This may involve formal meetings, possible fines and could lead to court action. **Your child will be classed as persistently absent making them vulnerable**. This could also be a trigger for social care involvement.

**"FROM THE FIRST DAY OF TERM TO THE LAST, THE SMALL MOMENTS IN A SCHOOL DAY  
MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE TO YOUR CHILD."**

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## What you can do

### Reduce Illness Days

if your child is saying they do not feel well and you are unsure about whether it warrants a day off, send them to school. If they are unwell, we will ring you.

Use common sense when deciding whether or not your child is too ill to attend school. Ask yourself the following questions. Is my child well enough to do the activities of the school day? Does my child have a condition that could be passed on to other children? Would I take a day off work if I had this condition.

### Top Tips

if you are struggling with your child's attendance, here are some tried and tested tips to ensure good school attendance for your child:

- talk to your child about how important it is to attend school every day.
- show an interest in what your child has learnt at school each day.
- help your child to keep routines, going to bed and getting up at set time.
- if you think our child is trying to avoid school, try to find out why. Ask them, ask their teacher.
- encourage after-school extra curricular clubs. Many school based clubs are free to attend.
- talk to your child's class teacher if you notice changes in behaviour.

**"THIS MORNING, HE HAD A RUNNY NOSE... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"**

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HM Government  
Search NHS school illness guidance to find out more.

**NHS**

### THE LINK BETWEEN ATTENDANCE AND ATTAINMENT IS CLEAR:

- In 2018/19, just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards, compared with 84% of pupils who regularly attended school.
- 36% of PA children in KS4 got 9 to 4 in their English and maths GCSEs, compared with 84% of regular attenders.

### AND IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO BENEFIT FROM GOOD ATTENDANCE:

- More than half (54%) of pupils who were PA in Year 10 and then rarely absent in Year 11, passed at least 5 GCSEs, compared to 36% of pupils who were persistently absent in both years.

### BUT ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT FOR MORE THAN JUST ATTAINMENT:

- Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing.



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