



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

If a child of compulsory school age is registered at a school it is essential that they attend school regularly to allow a child to fulfil their potential both academically and socially. As a school we want all our children to achieve and we are constantly looking at ways of improving our systems for that to happen. One of the systems we have been reviewing is attendance. **Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning, friendships and confidence.**

For a school to be considered to have good attendance we must have attendance of at **least 97%**.

Our current school attendance is **90.4%** - in the bottom 10% of schools across Liverpool.

We are very concerned about this and have made it a key target for our school to improve attendance for the sake of our children. **We can only achieve this by working together.** We are implementing attendance steps which will be in line with Local Authority and Government Guidance. The steps will involve a series of letters which will be sent if your child's attendance becomes a cause of concern. These letters will go to all families, (even if our attendance team or EWO are currently working with you). Below 90% is considered to cause significant concern.

Attendance percentages can be misleading. For some parents 90% attendance may seem like an acceptable level of attendance. However, the reality is that **90% attendance means that your child will miss half a day of school each week or 19 days of school during the school year. That is nearly four school weeks. This is not acceptable attendance.**

Please support us by making all medical appointments outside of school hours when possible and ensure your **child arrives at school on time.**

If your child is genuinely unwell and unable to attend school, please telephone the school office. We must have a reason for every time a child is absent from school and medical evidence. **We must be informed by 9am daily.**

If we have not been able to make contact with you, we may make a home visit, inform our EWO or inform the police or social services. Some of these measures may seem extreme but it is our legal and moral duty to ensure the safeguarding of every pupil in our school community. Absenteeism can be regarded as this.

We thank you, as always, for your continued support.

27.01.2023

Head Teacher - Mrs J. McCallum
admin@sacredheart.liverpool.sch.uk
www.sacredheartliverpool.school

DATES TO REMEMBER:

POETRY SLAM -
YEAR 5 AND 6
WITH SPOKEN
WORD ARTIST—
BLUE SAINT

31 JAN—YEAR 6
WORLD
MUSEUM—
ANCIENT BENIN

6 TH FEB—
PARENT MHST
COFFEE EVENT

3RD FEB YEAR 1
ASSEMBLY—ALL
PARENTS
WELCOME

8TH FEB LFC
FOUNDATION

9TH FEB—YEAR 4
TRIP TO MUSEUM

10TH FEB —OWN
CLOTHES FOR
CHILDREN
MENTAL HEALTH
CHARITY

10TH FEB—YEAR
5 ASSEMBLY

10TH FEB—LAST
DAY OF HALF
TERM —FINISH
3.15PM



UN Rights of the Child

Article 19



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is a legally binding international agreement setting out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every child regardless of their race, religion or age.





We have had another exciting and inspiring 2 weeks of learning. Our goal is to ensure the learning is engaging, interesting and purposeful. We know that children learn and retain more when they enjoy what they are doing. The children have certainly enjoyed learning about:

- Chinese New Year and the traditions and heritage of Chinatown in Liverpool.
- Getting ready for a National Poetry Slam Competition in March with the spoken word artist Blue Saint.
- Learning how to be safe around dogs.
- First Aid Training for Year 5.
- Lego Robotics workshops.
- Learning about anxiety and moving into new classes or schools with our NHS expert.
- Visiting the maritime museum to learn about the Titanic.

Thank you to all our EAL families who came to our coffee morning and all those who attended our E safety workshop with Mrs Sim.






Attendance and punctuality

Again, a reminder please of our expectations - aligned with those of the Local Authority and the DfE -with regard to attendance and punctuality. **Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education, confidence and social skills.** Children learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind and effects their self-confidence and friendships.

Why it's Important


We all want our children to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with children coming to school each and every day. If children miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school and life. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a pupil misses puts them behind, and can negatively affect their social skills, friendships, educational outcomes and their mental health.

Our target of 97.5%, which is in line with Government expectations. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in maths, writing and reading. Having an attendance of 90% in 1 school year equates to four whole weeks of lessons missed. Over 4 years, this means nearly 1/2 a year of lessons missed. Research suggests that 17 missed school days a year can mean one GCSE grade drop (DfE). Greater attendance = greater achievement & greater self-confidence.




AAA
Aspire, Attend, Achieve

ATTEND TODAY



ACHIEVE TOMORROW



EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

5 days absence over the whole year
97% - 100%
 Good chance of success and progress

20 days absence over the whole year
90%
 Less chance of success. Harder to make progress

20+ days absence over the whole year
Under 90%
 Detrimental to success and progress

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

LATENESS = LOST LEARNING

(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	15 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!

BE AT THE CLASSROOM ON TIME AND READY TO LEARN!