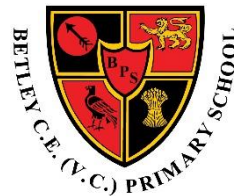




Off to a Flying Start!



Attendance Newsletter

Term 2

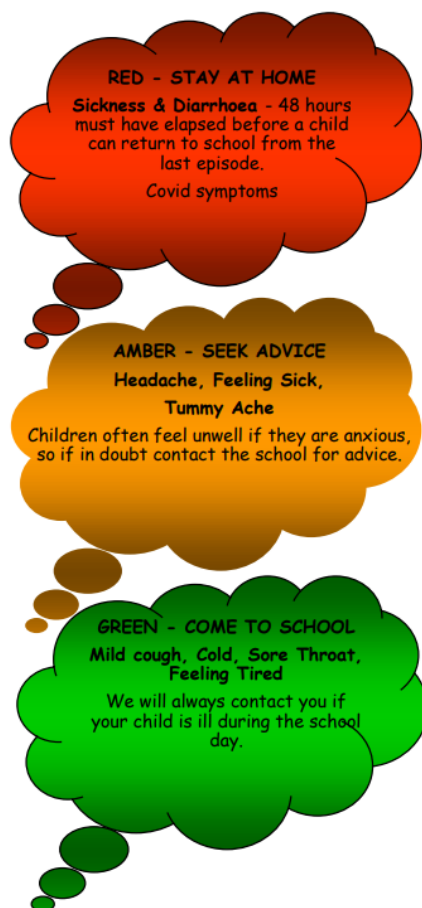
Welcome

Welcome to our second attendance newsletter; the aim is to promote the importance of attendance across the school community. It is really important that we continue to work together to do all we can to prioritise the children's attendance at school so that they can enjoy their learning and socialising with their peers. I'd like to introduce our new Educational Welfare Officer, Karen Wood from VIP Education. For more details about their services, please see their [Independent Education Services | VIP Education](#)



If you have any questions for our Education Welfare Officer, you will be able to meet at her at the Parental Meeting on Wednesday 3rd May. Karen will be in school between 2pm -3pm.

You will see that our attendance target is **97%** this year. Our current attendance is 94.8%; this shows that we are right to continue to focus on attendance as this figure is below 96% which is the point at which we would first send one of our letters out to parents and carers.



Absence through illness

We understand and appreciate that children can become ill and that it is not always easy to decide whether to send them into school or keep them at home, so to help you with this decision we have devised a useful reference guide. If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact the school office before 9.25am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms. If we do not hear from you, we will text you to find out why your child is not in school.

Medical Appointments

We request that, where possible, routine medical and dentist appointments are arranged outside school hours as these appointments will affect your child's percentage of attendance. We do understand that some appointments, such as hospital consultations, are not always possible to arrange outside of school hours. However, if your appointment time allows your child to come to school for registration and then leave, this will have a positive impact on their attendance figure. Likewise, if they are able to be back in school for afternoon registration at 1pm this will also have a positive impact.

The School Day

A reminder that the school day starts at 8.50am and the registers close at 9.00 am. After 9:05 your child is an unauthorised late. Once the registers have closed then your child is marked absent, and this will affect their overall attendance.

Please note if your child is late then this will count as an absence.

The table below demonstrates how much school children miss if they are absent, and it is surprising how this adds up.

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is....	over 13 years schooling
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Over 8 years

Good attendance is important because...

Statistics show that pupils with good attendance have higher attainment in school and studies show that children with attendance above 96% make better progress socially and academically. With the focus and development on the curriculum that has taken place at school, children who are absent will find gaps in their sequential knowledge. For our younger children, both attendance and punctuality are doubly important as they move straight into their phonics groups after the register has been taken.

Working Together



We will be working with you to keep you updated on your child's attendance by sending out letters at key points to inform you of your child's attendance should it go below 96% and to invite you in to find ways to work together to support your child's attendance.

Our new Education Welfare Officer will also make home checks.

Green – Attendance is above 96%

Amber – Attendance consistently below **96%**.

Red – Persistent Absentee below **90%**

**MISSING
(SCHOOL)=
MISSING
OUT!**