

Early Years



Attendance Matters!



We hope your children have settled in well to their classes at Summerfield.

It is vital that regular attendance in school starts from Early Years. Children need to know that it is expected that they attend on time, everyday. It is much harder to get them into this habit when they are older. Absences during the year should be rare.

You would be amazed how much learning your child does everyday! They may not tell you much when they come home, but everyday they will be learning new things, as well as consolidating skills and knowledge previously taught. Children learn best by regularly revisiting their learning. They need to make the most of every opportunity to do this—which means coming to school everyday.

We have noticed that some children are staying off for minor ailments—sore throats, runny noses, a bit of a temperature, a sore tummy or headache. Whilst it is very common for children new to school to pick up new germs, your child should be very poorly to need to take a day off.

The attendance team at Summerfield monitors all attendance and punctuality every half term. We really want to work with you to improve your child's attendance if it is poor. Talk to us and let us know if there is anything we can do to support you before attendance becomes an issue.

It is **your** responsibility to ensure your child comes to school everyday. As a school we have support from Milton Keynes Council to improve attendance. This means that when attendance is poor, and continues to be poor, a legal route will be taken to improve it. This could result in a fine.

We always fine families for taking their children on holiday during term times. This will be a £60 fine for each child to each parent. You will be asked for evidence if you are requesting leave for an exceptional circumstance—such as a wedding or a funeral (in the UK or abroad).

Punctuality is important too!

Classroom doors open at 8.45am and you should aim to get your child to school for this time. All classes will set early work, which enables the children to settle into the school day in a calm way as well as reinforce previous learning. Classroom doors close at 9am, after this time children will need to enter school via the school office where a late mark will be given. If your child arrives after 9.15am, they will receive an unauthorised absence. Too many unauthorised absences will trigger further action.



**Your attendance team are
Mrs Stuart and Mrs Carey**

Turn over for news of an exciting attendance competition!

Early Years Attendance Challenge!

To help encourage the younger members of the Summerfield family to come to school everyday, we are running an attendance challenge for 3 weeks from Monday 14th November.

Each child will be given a booklet to track their attendance for three weeks. Each day they are in, and on time, they will receive a stamp in their booklet. For each complete week they will receive a reward (as outlined below). They will **not** get a stamp in their booklet if they are not in school (for any reason).

Rewards

One week – 10 house points

Two weeks – Sticker from class teacher

Three weeks – Lucky dip from Mr Fraser!



Please support your child to be in school, on time, everyday!