

Headteacher: Mr Alun Randell

"To enable, encourage and equip all children to achieve their best through an inspiring and nurturing environment."

Monday 2nd June 2025

School Attendance

Dear parents and carers,

As you will be aware from previous communications, the government and, of course, schools are concerned about the long term impact of high levels of absence on educational outcomes - and ultimately a child's life opportunities.

The national average for attendance in primary schools is 95.8%. The average attendance at Hemington is <u>currently 92.7%</u>. This is an increase from 91.9% in March. I would like to thank all of our children and their families for trying hard to enable them to attend school as much as possible. In fact, our average attendance in Term 5 was 95.66% - a significant improvement although still below the national average. I must also point out, however, that our attendance on the last day of term was only 85.57%.

I would like to remind parents and carers that:

- There is a legal duty to ensure your child attends school when they are well enough to do
- Term time holidays will not be authorised.
- Term time absence can only be authorised in <u>exceptional circumstances</u> e.g. on compassionate grounds such as bereavement and should be agreed in advance. <u>'Wellbeing</u> days' are not grounds for authorised absence.
- In cases where absence is frequent and there is little or no improvement, school may refer the family for support from the Educational Welfare Officer and/or request a Fixed Penalty Notice.

As always, we are mindful that for some of our children, health concerns contribute to lower attendance. If there are any challenges or concerns that are affecting your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us so that we can work with you to find solutions that support your child's success.

Best wishes,

Alun Randell Headteacher