



18th July 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Statutory Attendance Guidance Update

We are writing to inform you of important changes from the DFE regarding school attendance that will come into effect from August 2024. To ensure clarity the wording is taken directly from the Department for Education.

Changes to Attendance Policy

From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days. This fine is per parent.

In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other actions such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500.

Importance of Regular Attendance

For most pupils the best place to be during term time is in school, surrounded by the support of their friends and family. Studies show that pupils who attend school regularly are more likely to succeed academically and develop strong social skills.

As part of our updated policy, the school is committed to meeting our obligation with regards to attendance through our whole-school culture and ethos that values good attendance, including:
Promoting good attendance;

Cont'd over



Reducing absence, including persistent and severe absence;
Ensuring every pupil has access to the full-time education to which they are entitled;
Acting early to address patterns of absence;
Building strong relationships with families to ensure pupils have the support in place to attend school;
We will also promote and support punctuality in attending lessons.

Support and Guidance

We understand that there may be circumstances that make attendance challenging. We encourage you to communicate any issues or concerns with us as early as possible so that we can provide the necessary support. Our goal is to work together to ensure that every child has the opportunity to succeed.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school via email to office@richmond.doncaster.sch.uk or by telephone 01302 782421.

Thank you for your co-operation and support in this matter.

Yours sincerely



Debbie Secker
Principal