

Date 21st June 2018

Re: Attendance and Behaviour

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you to highlight the importance of excellent attendance at school. As a parent, you have a legal responsibility to ensure your child attends school every day. The only reason for keeping your child off school is because they are too sick to attend. Having a sore throat, runny nose, period pains or any other minor ailment is not a reason for your child's absence.

There is a clear and obvious link between good attendance and good academic progress and achievement. The more your child attends, the more they will achieve. Subsequently, there is a clear link between achievement and life opportunities and career earnings. A child who leaves school with no qualifications is likely to earn five times less per year as an adult than someone who leaves school and goes to university to get a degree. This success can be determined by attendance at school.

In addition to limiting academic success, poor attendance at school can also lead to the following;

- A greater risk of becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.
- A greater risk of teenage pregnancy.
- More likely to suffer ill-health as an adult.
- Greater risk of suffering from mental health issues as an adult.
- Greater difficulty in making and sustaining friendships as an adult.

All of these contribute to a lower chance of enjoying a healthy, happy, successful life.

By condoning absence from school and allowing children to be absent, without good reason, parents can lower the chances of their child's success.

Where attendance remains too low, we have a duty to inform the Local Authority who may contact social services where there is a concern regarding a child's wellbeing or issue a fixed penalty of £60 per parent. The best thing to do for all parents is to ensure your child attends school every day, 100% attendance is the target to aim for.

Behaviour

Throughout this year, behaviour in school has continued to improve and we aim to continue that improvement. Unfortunately a very small number of students continue to disrupt the learning of others. This is not fair on the vast number of students who wish to learn.

From next week we will be introducing a new system where students who continue to disrupt learning after several warnings will be removed from the classroom to work with another member of staff. Any student who has been removed, will then be given a 1 hour detention on the same day. We will contact parents by text or phone call to inform you of any detention. Therefore it is essential that we hold the correct contact details for you. Please ensure that we have the correct mobile number. We want to let you know if your child has to stay behind but we will be unable so if we have the wrong details.

Parents Survey

As we continue to improve, it is important for us to get feedback from parents. This helps us to understand what you need and allow us to respond. For example, a number of parents have recently commented that it has been difficult to arrange a meeting with me. As a result of this valuable feedback, next academic year we have planned regular opportunities for parents to attend 'Drop in' sessions with me where I will be available to answer any questions you might have and respond to your concerns.

To ensure we continue to gather feedback, I would like to ask you to complete a parent survey. The Survey has been specially prepared for The Albion, is completely anonymous and will help us to continue to improve the school. It is therefore very important that as many parents as possible complete the survey accurately and honestly.

You can access the survey by typing the following web address into the address bar of your internet browser:
<http://survey.gi-assessment.co.uk/s/76ZXU/> Password **ALB14789parent**

As I have stated before, every change we introduce is carefully thought through and implemented to ensure the quality of education we provide continues to improve. Our ultimate aim is to provide the best education, opportunity and life chances for your child. We can only do that with your full support which we expect you to give.

Yours faithfully



Karl Mackey
Principal