

Attendance

The school has an Attendance Policy and Statement of Strategy for School Attendance which was ratified by the Board of Management.

Targets for 2022/2023 School Year:

1. Resestablishment of a SMART baseline measurement in annual attendance level, aiming for an increase overall attendance level close to 90% with an increase of 0.5% in subsequent years.



2. i. Reduce the number of pupils missing 40 days or more by 50% on baseline data (2021/2022)
- ii. Reduce the number of pupils missing 20 days or more by 50% on baseline data (2021/2022)

Initiatives to Promote Attendance:

- Best Attenders for previous month in each class – reward of visit to games room
- Care Team identify and reward improved attenders e.g. sticker charts, golden book
- Assembly we n to pupils' views
on ways of improving attendance, announce the winner of the best class/grade for attendance and name pupils chosen in each class for their efforts with attendance in the previous month.
- Awards for FULL ATTENDANCE at the end of each term (Christmas, Easter and Summer) and for the whole school year.

Communication re Absences:

- If your child is absent, please message school the reason for the absence e.g. illness, holiday, urgent family reason etc.
- When a child has been absent for 5 and 10 days, the school will send you an automatic text
- When a pupil has been absent for 15 days and 20 days, the principal will send you a letter to remind you of the number of days s/he has been absent



Legislation: (Citizen's Information – School attendance)

Parents: The legislation governing school attendance in Ireland is the [Education \(Welfare\) Act 2000](#). Under the Act the minimum school leaving age is 16 years, or the completion of three years of post-primary education, whichever is the later. Parents are required to ensure that their children from the age of 6 to the age of 16 attend a recognised school or receive a certain minimum education.

Under the Education Welfare Act 2000 parents must inform the school if their children will be absent from school on a school day and the reason for the absence, for example, illness. It

is best to do this in writing. The Child and Family Agency strongly advises against taking children out of school to go on holiday during term-time.

Schools: Schools are obliged to keep a register of the students attending the school. They must also maintain attendance records for all students and inform the Child and Family Agency's educational welfare services if a child is absent for more than 20 days in a school year. The principal must also inform the Child and Family Agency's educational welfare services if, in his/her view, a student has an attendance problem.