



Attendance Matters – September 2021

2021 has been a difficult year for us all with lockdowns, quarantining and self isolating impacting on students in various ways. With the effects that Covid-19 has had on our children's education and mental health over the last 12 months we need every child in school to help close any gaps in learning and to help establish normality.

Remember Attendance Matters and is crucial to achieving successful outcomes at school - Your child has a right to an education and to come to school every day.

At Les Quennevais we reward good attendance!

Each term we present students with a 100% attendance certificate.

Aiming High for 2021/2 - our target is 96%

In 2021 we achieved 95.5% - the highest attendance of all local Government secondary schools. Thank you to all our parents in helping us achieve this!

The vast majority of our students have excellent attendance but there are a number of students who need to improve their attendance at school.

Students who have more than 10% of days off are classed as 'Persistently Absent' and are tracked by school and by the Education Department. If your child's attendance is less than 90% they will be classed as Persistently Absent. We are working hard to further reduce this.

Coronavirus or another illness?

We appreciate it is extremely hard to make a judgement about whether or not symptoms are those of coronavirus or another illness, especially as we approach the cold and flu season. We would advise all families to err on the side of caution at all times and book a test by calling the Covid-19 helpline. Please notify school that your child or a household member has symptoms. You should inform us who the symptomatic person is, when they started having symptoms, if you have booked a test and if so when the test is. Lateral flow tests are available at school. Any positive test for any member of the family will mean a child will need to isolate until they return a negative test result before returning to school.

Illness

Sometimes children are too ill to come to school. Please contact school on **499174 on the first morning of the absence to let us know the reason why your child is off school.**

If you are worried about whether to bring your child back in to school after an illness, Kirsty Dunn our Educational Officer is happy to give you advice.

Please avoid making dental/medical appointments for your child during the school day. If an appointment is absolutely necessary please show your appointment card (preferably in advance) to the office as evidence for this absence.

Help if you need it

We are here to work in partnership with all our families and offer any support where needed. We are committed to promoting excellent attendance here at Les Quennevais School and hope you will continue to encourage your child to attend school where they will thrive.



Sometimes there are underlying reasons why a child does not attend school regularly. If at any time you experience any difficulty in getting your child in to school ***please speak to us.***

We are here to help and support, and can often find ways to stop any problems.

Phone school and ask for Mandy Berner

Frequently asked questions:

What if my child is unwell during the school day?

In the event your child becomes unwell during the school day, they will be assessed by a first aider. A first aider will take their temperature and discuss, with them, any other symptoms they may have. The first aider will contact families to advise them of the outcome of the assessment and it will, in most circumstances, be at the family's discretion as to whether or not the child should be sent home or a member of the Guidance team in school/.

Will work be provided for my child if they are required to self-isolate?

Yes, absolutely! School will provide work to any learner who is required to self-isolate on Google classroom. Please monitor Class Charts for details of work set.

Will my child's attendance record be impacted because they are required to self-isolate?

This will currently be regarded as an authorised absence.

What should I do if my child has been in contact with someone with coronavirus symptoms outside of school who isn't in their household?

We are being asked a lot about this issue at the moment. If your child has been in contact with someone with coronavirus symptoms (a friend, family member, etc.), who they do not live with, they do not need to self-isolate unless a Contact Track and Trace Officer has been in contact with you to advise you otherwise. If anyone in the family home has tested positive then the student must have a negative PCR test before they can return to school.

Punctuality

School starts at 8.40am, a warning bell is rung at 8.35am. Students should be in their form rooms for a prompt 8.40am start **for registration**. Arrival after this time is classified as late; should 3 late marks be received then a lunch time detention will be issued for every subsequent late arrival to school.