



Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.
They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.

It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green.

It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.

Jeremiah 17: 7 - 8

2.10.2024

Attendance Matters

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I am sure you will have seen, attendance of school pupils has been very much high profile in the media in recent months. We have received updated statutory guidance from the DFE which is available on their website.

The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have. It is the legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives that education either by attendance at a school or by education otherwise than at a school.

Last year our whole school attendance was above national average and above our school target of 97% and I am grateful to parent/carers continued support in helping this to be achieved. Myself and governors will continue to monitor attendance of pupils closely and where needed discussions will be held with the Local Authority. Our current attendance federation average is 96%.

What YOU must do:

- Try to telephone the school before 9am each day of your child's absence.
- Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!
- Get your child to school on time! Lateness to school counts towards your child's absence.

What WE will do:

- Check your child's attendance every day.
- Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you, this includes discussions if your child is regularly late to school.
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.
- Work closely with external agencies and the Local Authority on concerning attendance cases.

We have attached a copy of the updated 'Leave of Absence' form and the letter issued before the summer regarding penalty notices that will be applied. These and additional information about Attendance is available on the school website: <https://fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk/attendance/>

If you have any concerns regarding your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Mrs Mann Executive Headteacher



The Federation of Middleham (VA) & Spennithorne (VC) CE Primary Schools

Executive Headteacher – Mrs Marie Mann

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GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY DOES MATTER

DID YOU KNOW...?

In a school year, if your child is late every day by...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
5 minutes	3 days from school	12 lessons
10 minutes	6 days from school	24 lessons
15 minutes	9 days from school	36 lessons
20 minutes	12 days from school	48 lessons
30 minutes	18 days from school	72 lessons

PLEASE ENCOURAGE PUNCTUALITY TO MAINTAIN ATTENDANCE



Spennithorne, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 5PR
 Tel: 01969 623474
spennithorneadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk

Middleham, Park Lane, DL8 4QX
 Tel : 01969 623592
middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk

