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'Too many pupils are regularly absent from school and parents do not always support the school in promoting high rates of attendance.' Sandbrook Primary Ofsted report 2017

## THE BAD NEWS



The above statement is how our school community has been described by an Ofsted inspector in our last inspection. This is not something that we want people to think about our school. As deputy head, it is my responsibility to work with all of our families to ensure that this statement is not how we are judged.

Unfortunately, our whole school attendance percentage is **currently worse** than when we were last inspected. If your child's attendance is **below 95%** then it is impossible for our school to prove Ofsted wrong and currently there are **24** children that are not yet at 95% attendance.

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

A missed school day is a lost opportunity for children to learn . A recent study in America found that children who attend school regularly often achieve at higher levels in reading, writing and maths than children who do not have regular attendance.

### PERCENTAGES AS DAYS MISSED:

95% attendance = **2 weeks** of absences

90% attendance = **4 weeks** of absences

85% attendance = **6 weeks** of school absences

80% attendance = **9 weeks** of school absences

# THE GOOD NEWS



But do not fear; it is not all doom and gloom. There are still 16 weeks of our school year left. If your child is not one of those that is currently at 95% or above then they certainly can be. They just need **you** to bring them into school. We will welcome them with open arms even with sore throats, runny noses and tired eyes. They are our favourites!

Your children love being at Sandbrook Primary School, they want to be at Sandbrook Primary School, so please help them to have an attendance of **95% or more** and **prove Ofsted wrong**.

# NEW NEWS

## Keep it Green:

At the end of each half term your child will come home with their registration certificate showing their overall attendance percentage and the number of days that they have been absent. The registration certificates will be printed on coloured paper to inform you if your child's attendance has been green (97% or above) amber (94%-96%) or red (below 94%) for the half term.

## Celebrate Success:



In order to raise the profile of green attendance, we will be introducing an impressive attendance trophy that will be awarded to the class with the best weekly attendance. We will also be creating some dazzlingly new displays around our school and entrances, and each class has now been given two 100% attendance posters that they will display in their windows on the days that they have 100% attendance.

## What if:



Unfortunately, there still may be families and children that do not support us in our mission to prove Ofsted wrong. These families ultimately run the risk of being prosecuted by the local authority. This is not something that we want to have happen, but we are required by law to inform the local authority when parents are not working with us to ensure good school attendance.

