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Successful learning in a happy environment

5th November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may be aware since the COVID pandemic, attendance in schools has become a problem in some cases. This has led to the Department for Education implementing a new national framework in September 2024. This now means that the rules regarding attendance for all parents, schools and local authorities will be standardised.

Please find attached to this letter guidance from Cumberland Council which explains the new rules. Some of the new rules are linked to the taking of holidays within term time and how these might result in a Fixed Penalty Notice. As is stated in the new guidance – Schools must consider enforcement action if a child has more than 10 unauthorised absences (equivalent to 5 days).

There are times when your child may need to be absent from school for exceptional circumstances and a leave of absence can be requested and approved by the Headteacher (with the support of the Governing Body). However, if your child/ren are absent without good reason, unfortunately you may be liable for a fixed penalty notice.

Obviously, this will only affect any absences that come after the date on this letter. If you have any concerns or would like to discuss any of this further please don't hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks

Matthew Dixon
Headteacher