



HILLINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning and Achieving Together

Principal: Mrs Ann Bowen-Breslin (MA)
Vice Principal: Ms Sabrina Kelly B.Ed (Hons)
Vice Principal: Ms Samina Saidiya M.Ed

Uxbridge Road,
Hillingdon,
Middlesex,
UB10 0PH

Email: hillprimary@hillingdonprimaryschool.org.uk

Website: www.hillingdon.hillingdon.sch.co.uk

Tel: 01895 590087

Monday 24th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance at School

We are aiming for all pupils to have 96% attendance unless there are exceptional reasons.

I hope your child is enjoying the first day of the holidays.

Please find information below about attendance. Attendance is now a key focus area for improvement in 2023/2024. I do recognise that although it is an overall concern there are individual pupils with excellent/good attendance and this was recognised in pupils' reports - thank-you.

Pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 return to school **on Wednesday 6th September 2023**. Without an appropriate reason, attendance for all pupils who do not attend on this date will be unauthorised. Staff will make direct contact with parents if their child is absent during the first week of term to understand the reasons for their non-attendance.

Pupils who miss the first day(s) miss an important induction to the school year that puts them at a disadvantage to their peers. The timetables for the first week have already been completed and learning starts immediately, for example, Year 6's first lesson is maths.

As a school we are concerned about the general attendance of a significant group of our pupils. Parents whose child's attendance was a concern during 2022/2023 will have received a letter with their report and teachers will have identified the negative impact on their child's learning. We know that some pupils did not achieve the expected level of attainment in Reading, Maths or Writing because of their poor attendance. We know that a small but important group of pupils are starting secondary school and have not met the required standard due to poor attendance. Attendance at school is a parent's responsibility and we are concerned that some pupils have poor attendance each year and it is being approved by their parents. We are always keen to work in partnership with parents to improve attendance. If you have concerns about your child's attendance, then please make contact with Ms Child's (schilds@hillingdonprimaryschool.org.uk), in September 2023.

Next year each child has a target of at least 96% attendance. We do hope that parents/carers will support us in improving school attendance. Many pupils are still 'catching up' following COVID and any days missed, that are not authorised, have a direct impact on their learning.

The table below shows that not one of our year groups achieved the DFE recommendation of at least 96%. Pre-Covid our attendance was Good - 96%. We are keen to move it to at least 96% by July 2024.

Attendance - 2022/2023

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	91%
Year 1	93%
Year 2	94%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	94%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	95%

We look forward to working in partnership with you to improve overall attendance in the school.

Best wishes,



Ann Bowen-Breslin

Principal

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