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Attendance Matters

Dear Parents/Carers,

Central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential is an assumption so widely understood that it is insufficiently stated – pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school.

The Government expects-

Schools and Local Authorities to:

- Promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence;
- Ensure every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled; and,
- Act early to address patterns of absence

They expect parents to:

- Perform their legal duty by ensuring their children of compulsory school age who are registered at school attend regularly
- Ensure that their children are punctual to their lessons

All aspects of attendance are scrutinised both by school and many external agencies including Ofsted. The Government guidance regarding absence can be viewed at <https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence/overview>. It clearly outlines the fact that you can only allow your child to miss school if either:

- They are too ill to go in
- They have received advance permission from the school

As highlighted in our prospectus, requests for days off or holidays will need to be authorised by the Executive Head Teacher, however it must be noted that authorisation is exceptionally rare and will

Swineshead St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Abbey Road, Swineshead, Boston, Lincs,
PE20 3EN Tel: 01205 820356

Sutterton Fourfields Church of England Primary School Park Avenue, Sutterton, Boston, Lincs,
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only be granted if the application is considered to have been based upon “an exceptional circumstance”. Current Government legislation states that holidays for pupils **must** be taken outside of term time.

Our school day begins at 9:00am. Arrivals after 9:30am will be logged as an ‘Unauthorised Late’ and will therefore impact on your child’s attendance and education. **It is imperative that you inform school before 9:30am if your child is not going to be attending that day and also any subsequent days.**

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