



Weston St Mary C. of E. Primary School places great importance on attendance and to keep you informed we will be sending a regular attendance newsletter with up to date attendance data and helpful advice.

Current Figure

Our overall attendance figure for the current academic year is **97.11%**. National statistics for 2020-21 reported that average attendance in primary schools was 96% so we are currently **above** the national figure. This means that our children are being given the best opportunity to achieve and we would like to say thank you for your support with this.

Poor Attendance and Attainment

The DfE research demonstrates that pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 and key stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment.

At KS2, pupils not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7%, compared to 3.5% among those meeting the expected standard. Moreover, the overall absence rate of pupils not meeting the expected standard was higher than among those meeting the higher standard (4.7% compared to 2.7%).

By ensuring that children attend on every day possible, we are giving them the best chance to succeed.

Attendance Information

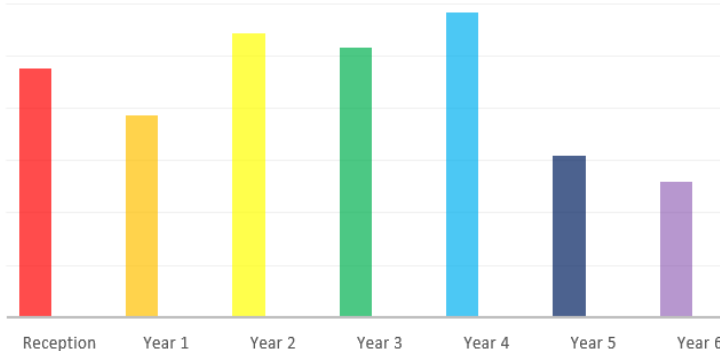
At the end of this week, your child will bring home a letter informing you of their attendance percentage for this half term. This is for information only and is ensure that you are fully informed about your child's attendance levels.

The Department for Education (DfE) states that a child is persistently absent if they miss 10% or more of all possible school sessions, regardless of whether the absence is authorised or unauthorised.

Appointments in School Time

We are noticing a number of children being removed from school to attend medical appointments (or those of parents/siblings). Whilst we understand that hospital appointments cannot be moved, we would ask that other appointments are made outside of the school day wherever possible. Removing children to attend medical appointments for other members of the family will not be authorised.

Attendance by Year Group - Year to Date October 22



Year group Attendance Figures to Date

Reception – 97.76%

Year 1 – 96.85%

Year 2 – 98.43%

Year 3 – 97.77%

Year 4 – 98.83%

Year 5 – 96.09%

Year 6 – 95.6%

Whilst most year groups are showing positive levels of attainment, we are concerned about the low Year 6 attendance levels in such an important year in the children's education and the potential impact on their attainment. Please ensure that your year 6 pupils are here on every day possible.

Punctuality

We appreciate the efforts that our Parents and Carers make in order to get their children into school on time. Poor punctuality can affect learning and behaviour. The start of the day is when the teacher informs the class of what the day ahead will look like. Learning begins from the moment they enter the classroom. It is not only the pupil who is late that is affected. It has an impact on all other learners if a child walks in late, as the teacher is then required to recap on missing learning for that child. This reduces learning time for the rest of the class. 10 minutes late every day = 33 hours lost learning each year!! It is so important that you get your child into school on time.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!
Missing school is ... missing out.

Thank you for your continuing support.

