



WHO ARE YOUR PASTORAL TEAM?

The Pastoral Team are based in the Arches, next to the ball park. You are welcome to pop in and speak with one of us morning or afternoon. There is:

Miss Evans – Pastoral Leader

Mr Bassra and Miss Aqil – Learning Mentors

We can support you and your family with lots of different things. We have information on many services you can access including, food banks and safeguarding or more personal issues such as domestic violence or SEND concerns.

Or if you just have additional concerns about your child's well being please come and let us know and we will do our very best to try to help you.

COFFEE MORNINGS



The Pastoral Team hold coffee mornings every term! Why don't you look out for our next one and join us? We would love to hear your thoughts on what it is you really want or need from the pastoral team or from school as a whole.

So please look out for the next coffee morning coming soon, everyone is welcome!

Attendance

We started this term off with a good level of attendance across school, and our aim, as always is for children to attend school 100% of the time and I'm sure you share that aim and ethos with us.

Unfortunately, the level of attendance has begun to drop, mostly due to some seasonal illnesses going around. We, of course, understand that sometimes children will get poorly but we'd like to ask you to evaluate if your child is really too poorly to come to school? or could you give them a spoon of paracetamol and send them in?

We have first aiders in school and are happy to call you if we think that they are not coping with being at school. We believe that working together with parents is the best way to improve attendance and outcomes for our children.



Appointments

We have noticed recently that a large number of children are being taken out of school early for appointments. Please try and make these appointments out of school time or if it is absolutely necessary then please ensure your child is in school before and/or after any appointment. If another member of the family has an appointment to attend, you must make alternative arrangements for someone to collect or bring your child to or from school.



Extended Leave

We appreciate the challenges that some parents face if they have family living abroad and an emergency arises. However, please keep in mind that the school does not authorise holidays regardless of whether a contract has been completed or not unless there are proven exceptional circumstances, that has been authorised by the Head of School.

If you are planning to take your child abroad during time-term you must complete a leave request form. These can be collected from the school office.

Penalty Notices Issued

During this academic year there have been over **30 penalty notices** issued for non-school attendance. This has resulted in parents either receiving a fine or their case being heard in court. Please be reminded that school attendance is compulsory, your child must only be absent if they are too unwell to attend or there are exceptional circumstances.

Attendance Monitoring

As attendance and punctuality is so important to all of us, we cannot be complacent where there are instances of unacceptable, low pupil attendance, or if pupils are regularly late to school. We regularly monitor all school attendance and punctuality and as part of our quest for improvement you may receive text messages, phone calls, letters or be invited to informal meetings to try and address any concerns.

The last thing we want to do is go through any legal proceedings so please respond and work with us on this quest for excellence in attendance and therefore your child's ability to reach their potential.



FAST-TRACK

'FAST-TRACK to Attendance' is an Early Help approach to improving pupil attendance and is used across schools in Birmingham by the Education Legal Intervention Team (ELIT). Your child may be placed onto this process if they are persistently absent (i.e. attendance is below 90%), particularly if these absences are unauthorised. Non-improvement of attendance may lead to penalty notices being issued to parents; in severe cases (especially children who have a history of poor attendance) ELIT will consider court proceedings.

The school is committed to improving pupil attendance and would much prefer to work with parents to achieve this and avoid taking the above route. Our Pastoral Leader Ms Evans is always here to talk to you should you need any support, or would just like to discuss any barriers your experiencing getting your child into school. She can be contacted on the school number.