Attendance Strategy

It is your parental responsibility to ensure that your child attends school every day. The purpose of this strategy is to set out how we will support your child's attendance.

Attendance at school matters. At Broken Cross Primary Academy and Nursery, we believe that good attendance is secured by developing a partnership between families, schools and our partner agencies involved in the social and emotional development of children.

Your child's potential and life prospects are significantly enhanced when he/she has high attendance. Good attendance will impact positively on your child's physical, social and emotional development.

Low attendance places your child at a significant disadvantage in terms of meeting their academic potential. Furthermore, children with low attendance often **lose confidence, find it more difficult to maintain friendship circles and their overall enjoyment of school falls.**

The Governing Body of the school fully adopt the change in regulations relating to school absence Amendments have been made to the 2006 regulations in the **Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.** The amendments make clear that **headteachers may no longer grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.** These are set out in the Regulations.

The aim of our attendance strategy is to:

- **Increase the school's overall attendance.** Our target is to develop an expectation of regular school attendance. In other words, that each child attends every single day.
- **Promote an understanding of the need for good school attendance** across the whole school community.

- **Reduce the number of children with persistent absence (below 90%)** through clarity of expectation, effective support and adherence to policy. We will continue to offer support to vulnerable families to help promote better attendance for all children.
- **Promote effective inter agency work.** This includes, but is not limited to, the use of the Education Welfare Officers and Social Workers to develop and support the delivery of action plans.
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In order to support good attendance for all, the school will:

- Follow up first day unexplained absences by phone call, email, text message before 10 am.
- Head and Pastoral Care Lead emailed list of children who are absent first thing in the morning, so emerging pattern are quickly noted.
- Telephone all listed contacts on a pupil's records if the number one contact is unobtainable.
- Track all attendance fortnightly.
- Remind parents/carers of the importance of regular attendance and punctuality via newsletters and the school website.
- Share and celebrate class attendance on weekly newsletter.
- Celebrate individual improvements in attendance with parents/carers/pupils.
- Publish each child's attendance rate on her/his annual school report (Nursery – Y6).
- Inform parents if we have concerns regarding their child's attendance and punctuality. Children with 90% attendance or less, whatever the reason for the absence, are classified as persistent absentees.
- We will meet half termly with the Local Authority School Attendance Officer to discuss attendance that is a cause for concern.
- Use outcomes of PASS survey data to proactively identify pupils at risk of poor attendance, ensuring a focus on disadvantaged and pupils with SEND.
- Provide free breakfast club from 8 am every morning.
- Engage with Meridian Trust Attendance Hub.

When attendance becomes a concern, the school will:

- Endeavor to work with parents/carers and pupils to identify any barriers to attendance and plan to work together to reduce/remove them – please see our Universal, Targeted and Individualised/Complex offer below.
- If the attendance does not improve then we will work with outside agencies, including Local Authority Attendance Officers and Social Care to highlight the child's attendance concerns and create a joint action plan to improve attendance.
- We will make reasonable enquires which may include home visits.

SEN and Disadvantaged children

Identified pupils with specific medical, therapy or Special Educational needs, who have a high level of absence, will be supported by the following strategies:

- School will maintain the same ambition for excellent attendance.
- Weekly monitoring of attendance and absence.
- Working with the Local Authority to record such absences as authorised to reflect attendance as good as can be expected for these pupils and the school.
- Provide home visits where appropriate.
- Recognise that some pupils are not 'available for learning' and work with the LA and other agencies to allocate appropriate provision which may not be within our school.

UNIVERSAL	TARGETTED	INDIVIDUALISED/COMPLEX
PHSE and RSE curriculum Staff trained in trauma informed practice Pastoral Lead support Parental support Parent/carer coffee mornings Pass Survey (KS 2) Restorative Practice Forest Schools My Happy Mind Extra Curricular Activities School therapy dog Worry boxes Mindfulness	Mentally Healthy Schools Groups – MHST deliver parenting sessions as well as sessions for pupils ELSA groups School Health Individualised programmes, delivered by school staff Lunch Club Small social skills groups Mind Mechanics Life Skills	Individualised programmes of support including advice from Educational Psychology and Cheshire East Autism Team Individualised ELSA work Play Therapy Access to Specialist outreach services for complex cases including Complex Needs Supervision Individualised Reducing Anxiety Management Plans Bereavement support CAMHS Internal and external counselling services Young carers Specialist Medical team support