

Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class



Maximising Attendance – Parent Information

Why is Attendance important?

Good attendance helps pupils to meet their full potential – academic, social and emotional development. Absence from school, whatever the cause, disrupts learning and reduced the ability of learners to be successful.

- Pupils who attend school regularly tend to perform better in assessments and examinations.
- School provides opportunities to make friends, develop social skills and learn team values.
- Schools help children develop positive peer relationships, which can contribute to mental wellbeing.
- School helps children develop routines, preparing them for adulthood.
- Good attendance can lead to better job prospects.
- Frequent non-attendance can lead to feelings of isolation and disconnection from school and peers, which can impact on wellbeing, causing anxiety.

Partnership with Families

Families have a lead role in supporting good attendance and open communication between home and school will allow necessary supports to be put in place to ensure our pupils attend school and meet their full potential.

How will we achieve this?

The Senior Leadership and Management Team will have responsibility for certain classes in school (P1-3) (P4/P5) (P5/6-P7). If absence is not reported, a text message and/or telephone call will be sent to ensure records are maintained and monitored. Letters will provide essential information for families, as per North Lanarkshire Council policy, where attendance falls below 90%.

How will we record and monitor this?

- Absence is recorded daily on the North Lanarkshire system and the school database.
- Phone calls/meetings to discuss reasons for absence and offer any necessary support.
- Attendance letters and monthly absence reports.
- Termly absence reports will be issued to parents with letters, following North Lanarkshire Council Policy.
- If a pupil's attendance falls below 90%, parents and carers will be issued with Termly absence reports with a letter highlighting this, following North Lanarkshire Policy.
- Parents/Carers may be invited to a support meeting.
- If attendance continues to fall below 90%, a Wellbeing Meeting with the Cluster Integration and Inclusion Lead may be required and intervention from the Family Engagement and Support Assistant.
- Your child's attendance will be outlined in their Pupil Progress Profile.

Punctuality

Persistent late coming can also have an impact on a pupil's ability to achieve their full potential. Any child who arrives at school after the cloakroom door has closed should enter through the main door, where staff record the time they have arrived and mark it on the register accordingly. Anyone arriving after 9:10am will be considered late for school. Appropriate communication and partnership working will encourage good timekeeping.