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Contact:
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Date:



September 2026



Education and Families

Ed Clinton
Head Teacher
Cumbernauld Primary School
Eastfield Road
Cumbernauld, G68 0EB
www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk

Dear Parent/Carer,

Attendance Matters

We place a high importance on school attendance. Regular attendance is vital for children's wellbeing, personal development, and educational progress. As a school, we aim for all children to achieve an attendance rate of at least 90% across the school year. Attendance below 90% is regarded as a significant level of absence and can have a negative impact on a child's progress, achievement, and wider school experience.

Why is attendance so important?

We want all children and young people to realise their full potential. Regular attendance at school is essential in enabling children to achieve this and to ensure they have the best possible start in life and a brighter future.

Below are some of the key reasons why attending school regularly is so important:

- To develop good habits and establish predictable routines.
- To make new friends and build positive, secure relationships.
- To grow as individuals, developing confidence, self-esteem, and resilience.
- To enjoy learning and experience new opportunities.
- To develop skills for learning, life, and work.
- To develop an awareness and understanding of different cultures, religions, ethnicities, and gender identities.
- To celebrate achievements with friends and peers.

We understand that there will be occasions when children are unable to attend school due to illness or other exceptional circumstances. However, unnecessary absences and late arrivals can have a significant impact on both learning and social development.



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Valuable learning experiences take place in every classroom, every day, and missing these opportunities can affect progress over time. This includes additional support for learning, which is often timetabled with visiting staff. Arriving late can mean that children miss these valuable opportunities. Over time, this can lead to gaps in learning and delays in progress. There is clear evidence of a link between poor attendance and lower levels of attainment. Children who attend school irregularly also miss opportunities to socialise with their peers and may find it more difficult to develop and maintain friendships. Late arrival can also have a wider impact on the school community. It may disrupt learning, unsettle other children, and create additional demands on administrative and catering staff through interruptions and last-minute changes to arrangements such as lunch orders.

Please notify the school office of the reason for any absence as soon as possible to ensure this is recorded correctly and to avoid unnecessary texts or phone calls.

If you are planning a family holiday during term time, please inform the Head Teacher in writing.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please contact your child's class teacher or a member of the school leadership team. We are committed to working with families to identify and overcome any barriers to attendance.

If you have any suggestions that could help us further improve attendance procedures and support for families, please speak to a member of staff or email: enquiries-at-cumbernauld-pri@northlan.org.uk

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure that every child benefits fully from their time at school.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Clinton
Head Teacher