



Birley Spa Primary Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

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Attendance Newsletter

18th September 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome back to you all after what has been a very strange and different time for us all. We are so glad to be welcoming all the children back for the start of a new academic year.

We would like to congratulate you all on making a great start to the year and supporting your children with their education and the high attendance we have had coming back.

A special well done to Nursery who achieved 100% last week. Endcliffe class also did fantastic with 98.9% last week. Over half of the classes achieved attendance over the national target. Let's keep this up and strive towards improving this in the coming weeks.

We are all working hard together to meet the national target for attendance this year, and am sure that we can do this with the great start that has been made.

We understand that at times there are barriers to children learning and remind you that we are here for support during these times.

If you are having any difficulty which is affecting your child's attendance, please speak to school and we can discuss options regarding what support is available to help you.

Attendance procedures

If your child's attendance falls below 90% they will be classified as persistently absent. This is in line with the Local Authority and DfE guidelines. Please see the flowchart which describes and demonstrates the schools procedures regarding this.

Keeping Children Safe in Education

As outlined in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) September 2020 and in line with Children Missing in Education September 2016, school have a duty and a responsibility to safeguard all children and account for their whereabouts.

We ask that you notify school on the first day of a child's absence from school and keep us informed throughout their absence of when they are likely to return. If we are not able to make contact with you this may lead to a member of the Safeguarding team conducting a home visit. If we are still unable to make contact with you then this may lead to referrals to other agencies.

COVID-19

In order to ensure that we keep everyone safe please ensure that you follow appropriate protocols should your child or any member of the household show symptoms relating to COVID – 19.

Symptoms consist of

- A new and continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A change to or loss of taste and smell

If your child displays these symptoms please keep them at home and book a test for them. You must also ensure that you contact school and inform them. We ask that you also inform us once you get the results of the test.

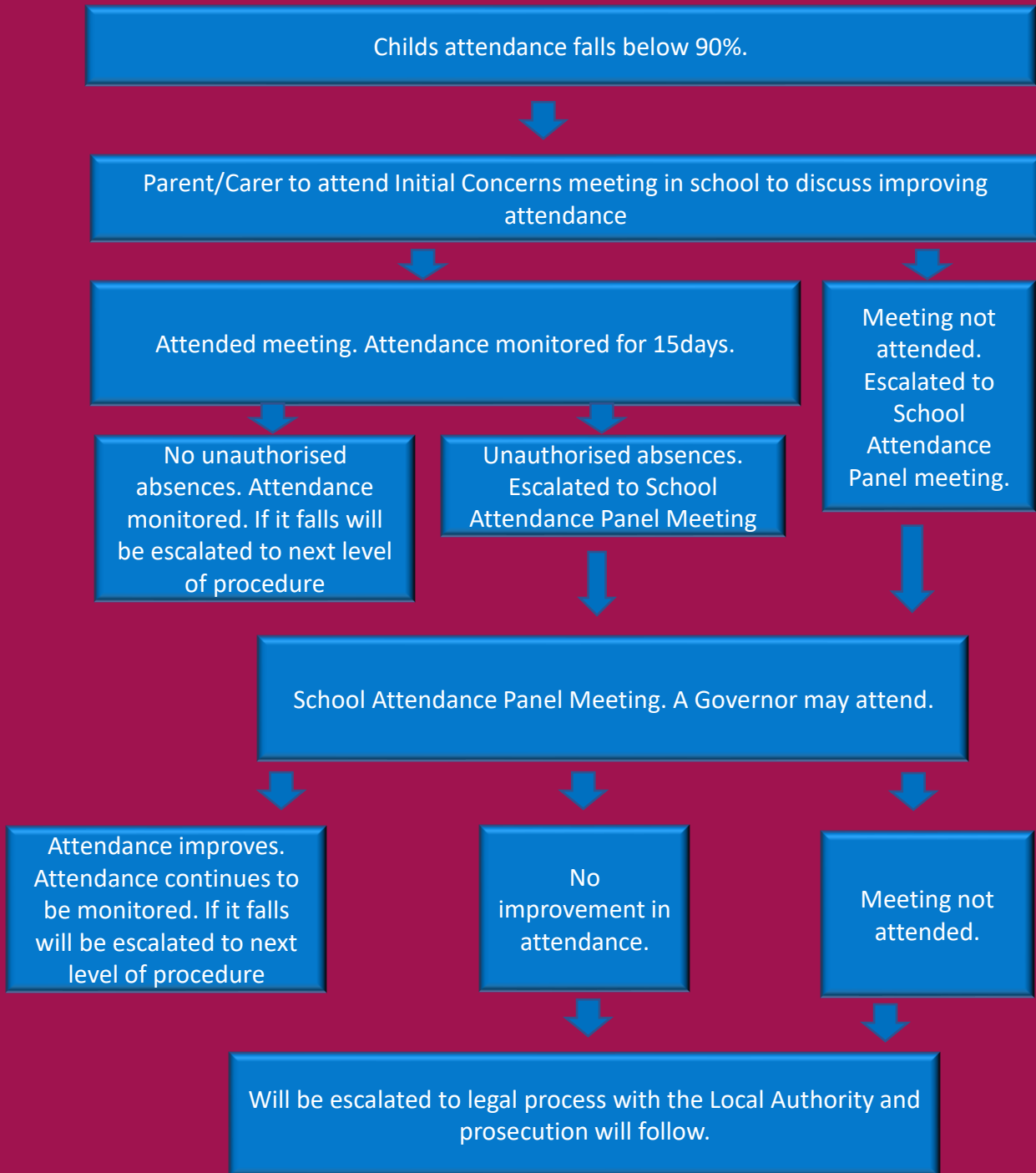
If you, or the person who is bringing/collecting the child from school displays symptoms we ask that you do not come to school. This is to ensure we can keep everyone safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

If a member of the household tests positive then the household enters isolation and therefore children are not able to come to school. Please notify school of their absence as per normal policy.

Thank you for your continued support

Safeguarding & Attendance Team

School Attendance Procedure



Please note due to the current situation with COVID-19 all meetings will be held by telephone or video call. If a meeting is required a letter will be sent with a time for this to occur. If you are unable to do the time stated you must contact school to re-arrange or the meeting will go ahead in your absence and procedure followed as outlined above.

