St. Edward's Church of England Academy

October 2017

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s),

At St Edward's we are aiming for 100% attendance, as we recognise that attendance is essential if a child is to make the most of the educational opportunities available to them and to help children achieve more.

Did you know:

- **90% attendance = 19 days off school (equivalent to a day off every 2 weeks!)**
- **85% attendance = 29 days off school (equivalent to missing a whole half term!)**
- **97% and above is classed as good attendance.**
- **Anything below 96% is below the national average and classed as poor attendance.**
- **If a parent takes their child out of school for a 2 week holiday during term time this will mean that the pupil's attendance cannot be better than 94.7%.**

We acknowledge that irregular attendance seriously disrupts continuity of learning, undermines educational progress, can lead to underachievement and low attainment and impedes the pupil's ability to develop friendship groups within the Academy.

Statistically, there is a 60-70% chance that a pupil will fail to make the expected standard if their attendance is below 90%.

All pupils are sometimes reluctant to attend school. Any problems that arise with attendance are best resolved between the Academy, the parents and the pupil.

To further support our aim to achieve the very best attendance for pupils, our attendance policy has now been updated and gives parents / carers clear information on how our structures and processes aim to do this. Working with pupils, parents and external agencies where appropriate is fundamental in aiming for excellent attendance.

Please find below the link to the policy which can be found on our website:

http://tinyurl.com/y8n2faab

Thank you for your anticipated support in this matter and please do not hesitate to contact the Academy if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J. Parrish
Vice Principal