



Learn, Laugh and Love

Attendance Matters!

Harehills Primary School - Attendance Newsletter

Spring Term - February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We wanted to share some important information about attendance at Harehills Primary School and celebrate the improvements we're seeing together.

Our Attendance This Year

We're pleased to report that our current attendance has improved to **93.28%** – a positive increase from our autumn term figure of 92%. This is wonderful progress and shows the commitment of our school community!

However, we're still working towards the target of 96%, and with your continued support, we know we can get there.

Why Every Day Matters

Missing school affects your child's learning and development. Currently, 26.28% of our pupils are classified as persistently absent (missing 10% or more of school) which is significantly higher than national at 14.7%. Even a few days here and there can quickly add up and impact your child's progress.

Understanding Absence

Illness

Illness accounts for 2.96% of absences at our school. We understand that children do get genuinely ill, and when this happens, they should stay at home to recover.

However, your child can come to school if they have:

- Minor colds or sniffles
- Headaches (unless severe)
- Feeling 'a bit tired'

If you're unsure, please contact the school office or a member of the Attendance Team (Miss Pallas, Mr Ali, Mrs Drysdale, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Khaliq or Mrs Hussain) and we'll be happy to discuss it with you.

How You Can Help

1. Establish good routines

- Set regular bedtimes and wake-up times
- Prepare uniforms and bags the night before
- Aim to arrive at school on time every day

2. Avoid term-time holidays

- Plan family holidays during school breaks
- Term-time absence can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances

3. Medical appointments

- Try to book appointments outside school hours where possible
- If this isn't possible, bring your child to school before/after the appointment

Need Support?

If you're experiencing difficulties getting your child to school, or have concerns about their attendance, please don't hesitate to contact us. We're here to help and can offer support including:

- Early help and family support
- Working with external agencies if needed
- Attendance action plans

Contact us: Please speak to your child's class teacher or contact the school office.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school regularly and on time. Together, we can help every child at Harehills Primary School reach their full potential.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Pallas

Deputy Headteacher