



22 April 2022

Dear parents and carers,

I write today to introduce you to Mr Hughes who joined Maharishi School this week in the role of Attendance Administrator. If you need to contact Mr Hughes, his working days are:

- Tues AM/PM
- Wed AM only
- Thu AM only.

Mr Hughes can be contacted via email at attendanceadmin@maharishischool.com. If you would like to speak to Mr Hughes, please either email him directly or call the school on 01695 729912 (option 3) and he will call you back when he is in school.

Mr Hughes is not responsible for day-to-day absence - please continue to contact the school's absence line before the start of the school day if you need to report an absence: 01695 729912 (option 1 primary phase; option 2 secondary phase).

Mr Hughes' role is centred on increasing overall attendance at the school and reducing the number of pupils with 'persistent absence' (90% attendance or less; the equivalent of missing half a day a week, every week).

In the first instance, Mr Hughes will be analysing whole school and individual pupil attendance data, and he will subsequently make contact with relevant parents according to our updated Attendance Policy.

<https://maharishischool.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Attendance-and-Absence-Policy-Dec-2021.pdf>

Attending school every day is a critical part of educational success, and setting good attendance patterns from an early age also helps children later in life, as employers want to recruit and promote people who they feel are reliable. Pupils with good attendance at primary school are more likely to continue with good attendance at secondary school and beyond.

At Maharishi School, we value good attendance and this is reflected by Ofsted for whom a school cannot be rated as 'good' or 'outstanding' if attendance is not 'good' or 'outstanding'.

Headteacher: Mrs L Edwards BA(Hons), PGCE.

Tel: 01695 729912 Email: enquiries@maharishischool.com www.maharishischool.com

Cobbs Brow Lane, Lathom, Ormskirk, Lancashire L40 6JJ

By law, all children of compulsory school age (between 5 and 16) must receive a suitable, full time education. Parents are responsible for making sure this happens, either by registering your child at a school or by making other arrangements which provide a suitable full time education. If your child fails to attend regularly – even if they miss school without you knowing – the Local Authority may take legal action against the child's parents. If this happens, parents can be fined up to £2,500 or imprisoned for failing to ensure that their child attends school regularly; magistrates can also impose a Parenting Order, which means that the parent has to attend a counselling and guidance programme, usually a parenting class.

What can you do to help?

- Contact the school as soon as possible if you are concerned about the reasons for your child's absences so that we can work together to identify and resolve any difficulties.
- Be alert for any particular reasons for non-attendance, such as possible issues with peers or problems with school work and discuss these with us as soon as possible.
- If your child is ill or absent for any other reasons, contact the school on the first day of absence, clearly stating the reason for the absence (non-specific reasons, such as 'unwell' or 'ill' will be marked as unauthorised) and inform the school on EVERY subsequent day of absence. If we are not informed of an absence, it will be marked as unauthorised.
- Make sure your child arrives at school on time. Late arrival to school can result in your child missing Transcendental Meditation (TM) or Word of Wisdom. TM opens the awareness to the infinite reservoir of energy, creativity and intelligence that lies deep within everyone.

Maharishi School is a wonderful place for our children to grow and learn. Please support us as we enter a new approach to attendance for the benefit of each individual child and for the school as a whole.

With many thanks for your continued support



Lisa Edwards

"It is right ... to guide and shape the thought and behaviour of the younger generation through a combination of love and discipline" Maharishi Mahesh Yogi

"Focus on the highest ideal day after day; that saves life from being wrapped up in small whirlwinds" Maharishi Mahesh Yogi