



Create, Adapt and Learn Together
Manchester Road Primary Academy

NEWSLETTER 23RD JANUARY

ATTENDANCE 19/01/26 – 23/01/26

CLASS	SCHOOL ATTENDANCE	LATES
Bumblebee	95.1%	6
Clover bee	96.2%	13
Honeybee	88.3%	2
1A	88%	8
1B	98.5%	11
2A	93.6%	8
2B	93.5%	9
3A	92.8%	7
3B	94.6%	8
4A	98.2%	4
4B	96.7%	3
5A	95.9%	8
5B	98.9%	12
6A	95.8%	14
6B	92.4%	16

LATENESS THIS WEEK

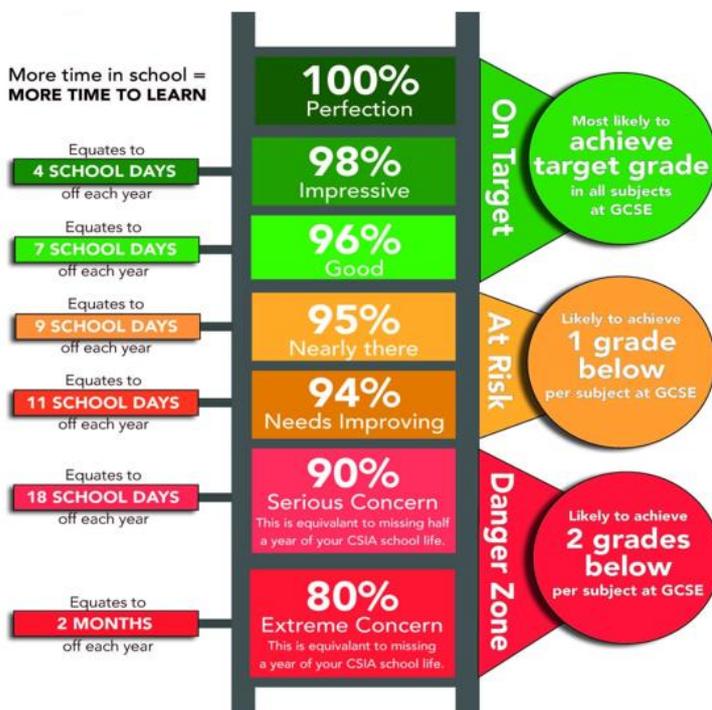
Day	Lates
Monday	23
Tuesday	19
Wednesday	36
Thursday	20
Friday	31
Total Lates This Week	129

Lateness has a massive impact on children's learning. Not only on the children that are late, but also on the children in the classes being disrupted. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time each day.

97% and above Excellent
95% to 96% Attendance is slipping and will be closely monitored
95% or below Poor (high numbers of children are persistently absent)

EARLY LEAVERS

Day	Early Leavers
Monday	7
Tuesday	11
Wednesday	7
Thursday	6
Friday	5
Total this week	36



For every day your child is absent from school over 6 hours of instruction time is lost

THE SCHOOL DAY

8.35 – 8.50am – Arrive on the school playground

8.40am – Pupils enter school

8.50am – Gates shut & registration

11.45am – KS1 Lunch

11.50am – KS2 Lunch

12.35pm – Afternoon session begins KS1

1.05pm – Afternoon session begins KS2

3.15/3.20pm – End

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 30 th January	1A Class Assembly
	Own Clothes
Wednesday 4 th February	Year 1 Geography Walk
Friday 6 th February	1B Class Assembly
	Own Clothes
Monday 9 th February	Chocolate Bingo
Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th February	Spring Half Term

CHANGES HAPPENING WITH MCAS REQUESTED BY OUR TRUST

From Spring Term

Data Collection

· Parents NI numbers to be collected to support FSM and PP checks via online systems.

· Contact information to be updated in case parents change phone numbers or emails.

Please email office@mrpa.org.uk with these details.

THE LEARNING HERO

Honeybee	Mustafa for showing fantastic behaviours for learning and trying very hard with his letter formation.
Cloverbee	Andrew for being so engaged and creative in his learning this week.
Bumblebee	Hallie
1A	Vinnie for showing fantastic independence and resilience in Maths this week when learning number bonds to 20.
1B	Phoebe- for using her resilience and positivity to become an effective learner, in maths, English and science this week!
2A	Junior for his super resilience in his learning.
2B	Khalo for resilience across his learning.
3A	Amaan for increasing independence and being actively involved in lessons.
3B	Lyal for showing great reflectiveness in Maths as well as being so resilient.
4A	Caroline for being a fabulous role model in Year 4 and around school.
5B	Yanice for consistently producing high quality work and working so hard.
6A	Mofe for being an amazing student, always working hard, using beautiful manners and being an absolute pleasure to have in our class.
6B	Renaya for always being engaged in her learning and setting a great example.

CHOCOLATE BINGO

We are excited to share that we will be hosting a Chocolate Bingo event on **Monday 9th February from 3.30-5pm** to help raise funds for developing and improving our playground resources. We are limited to a capacity of 100 people in the KS2 hall, so tickets will be available on a 'first come first served' basis. Please email office@mrpa.org.uk with your child's name and how many tickets you would like. Tickets are £2 each. We hope you can join us for an enjoyable afternoon and help us raise money to enhance our playground for all children to enjoy.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

HiPAL

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

(with reduced functionality for under-12s)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

HiPal is a trending social media app which turns phones into walkie-talkies, allowing people to have voice conversations with friends or strangers. There are two account options: one for users aged under-12 and one for those aged 12 or above. The former has fewer features and limits interaction with strangers, enabling use of the walkie-talkie feature or photo sharing with friends and family only. The 12+ accounts offer more options, including adding strangers as friends, sharing photos and videos publicly, sending private messages and holding voice chats with strangers as well as friends.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

HiPal's under-12 accounts don't allow direct connections with strangers (although children seeking more friends can share their 'Friend Code' on other platforms), but for older users, chatting with strangers seems to be the app's main appeal. The 'Public Square' shows nine online users (hitting 'refresh' replaces these with another nine), and clicking on someone's profile starts a conversation.

SEXTING AND SUGGESTIVE PICS

Almost immediately after our expert downloaded the app, strangers began to message privately – asking for provocative images or sharing explicit photos of themselves. Likewise, in the 'Explore' feed, many of the pictures and videos are innocent but some are far more salacious. There is always the risk of other users secretly saving a revealing photo and re-sharing it elsewhere.

NEED FOR VALIDATION

Some users – particularly girls – post photos on apps of this type hoping for positive reactions and comments to boost their self-esteem. Suggestive images tend to attract more flattering feedback, encouraging the user to post more frequently and with more explicit content. Conversely, receiving unkind comments about their picture can impact a young user's confidence and sense of self-worth.

NO AGE GATES OR MODERATION

Although users are given an initial choice of the under- or over-12 profile, there is no verification method to confirm someone's age. It is quite clear that the 'older' option offers a more complete experience on the app, but there seems to be no content moderation in place. Likewise, there is a reporting button for users to make a complaint but these reports do not appear to be followed up.

INTRUSIVE FEATURES

HiPal's walkie-talkie gimmick is no different from a normal phone call and seems rarely used; although it allows conversations to still be heard while a phone is locked, which could have awkward results. HiPal also offers 'boom' messages: unmissable large-text notifications which are highly distracting and briefly take over the phone – users can't access other apps until the message fades.

LARGE GROUP CHATS

The app offers group chats with up to 100 people – both friends and unknown users. This not only means excessive 'boom' messages taking over your child's device, but near-constant notification alerts and – most worryingly – the potential for walkie-talkie chatting and sharing photos with strangers outside parental supervision and apparently with no moderation from the platform itself.

Advice for Parents & Carers

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Remind your child of the dangers of connecting with strangers online. Some may be using the app innocently; others may have more sinister intentions. Encourage your child to consider what information they disclose in private messages and emphasise that they should inform a trusted adult if someone on the internet ever attempts to persuade them to meet in person.

TALK ABOUT SEXTING

It can be an awkward conversation (which young people are often reluctant to have), but it's vital to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Discuss the legal implications of sharing explicit images, as well as the emotional impact. Make it clear your child should never feel pressured into sexting – and that they should tell a trusted adult if they receive any unwanted explicit images.

BUILD RESILIENCE

With HiPal's lack of moderation, it's imperative that children are prepared for comments they might receive after uploading an image. You can build their resilience and equip them to manage these situations by having them show you any comments they've received. Together, discuss how the nice ones made them feel – and what they could do if someone posted a comment that upset them.

AVOID OVER-SHARING

Young people should think carefully about what they share in their profile, bio and posts. Talk to your child about not disclosing personal details such as phone numbers, other social media accounts or images which could reveal where they live or go to school. It's essential for children to recognise that strangers can assemble a detailed profile of someone based on things they can find online.

CONSIDER MENTAL WELLBEING

Many users on HiPal publicly share photos that are intended to be alluring in the hope of gaining more likes, friends and positive feedback – boosting their self-esteem and making them feel more self-assured. When young people regularly engage with social media platforms, it's important that parents and carers keep in mind the potential impact such platforms can have on mental wellbeing.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Salkeld is a senior online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented online safety and cyber security policies for schools. She has written various research papers and created a research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday