



Artsmark
Silver Award
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Council England



Learning through faith

Address: St. Mary's C.E. Primary
Academy
Spenbrook Road, Burnley
BB12 9JP
Tel/Fax: 01282 612191
Date: 18th June 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Due to the governments drive to improve the nations school attendance, they have made changes to how schools record pupil absences. These will come into effect from the 19th August 2024.

One of these changes will affect our school community. If your child is late, this will now be recorded as an unauthorised absence rather than a late mark, **thus having a detrimental effect on not only your child's attendance record but also that of the schools.** Please ensure that all children are in school and ready to learn for the start of our school day, which is **8.55am**.

We understand there will be times of exceptional circumstances e.g. a sibling is ill in hospital. Please inform school as soon as possible to enable us to support you and your family in any way we can.

Penalty notices will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days. The threshold at which a penalty notice must be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period. **This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes.** The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.

Absences can have a lasting effect on learning. Missing a week of school means your child will miss around 25 hours of learning. This creates gaps in their knowledge and could mean they will not meet their full potential.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

Pauline Nightingale
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Tel: 01282 612191



At St Mary's we believe that it is possible for ordinary people to choose to be extraordinary!