



The Cathedral School of St Mary
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Dear Parents/Carers,

It is widely recognised that the educational outcomes and future life chances of children can be significantly impacted upon by periods of absence. Therefore, at The Cathedral School of St Mary, we believe that achieving outstanding levels of attendance is the key to each and every pupil fulfilling their potential.

The DFE's target for school attendance is at least **96%**. This academic year, the attendance for The Cathedral School is **89%** and we are working hard to improve our overall yearly attendance for all of our pupils.

We are committed to ensuring that our children attend school as often as possible and we will be implementing some new changes to improve how we monitor and communicate children's attendance with parents and carers. From Monday 29th January 2024, children whose attendance is below **96%** for the academic year will be contacted by their child's class teacher, as a first point of school intervention, via dojo or in person. This will be to offer support and guidance as to how to best support their child in attending school on a regular basis. Parents will then be contacted every 3 weeks with updates on their child's attendance if it continues to be below **96%** or does not show signs of improvement.

Following on from a conversation with the class teacher, children's attendance will be closely monitored by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Where patterns of absence are identified or attendance continues to fall, further interventions and help will be offered with the Parent Support Advisor (PSA) and a member of SLT.

We of course recognise that there will be occasions when a child's absence is affected due to exceptional circumstances such as illness. In these cases, support and advice will always be available from the school office.

Thank you in anticipation of your support in improving your child's attendance. This will help to ensure that they have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Many Thanks,

Mrs Roisin Wright
Executive Headteacher