



Reaching for the Stars !

21st October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers ,

At our recent Full Governing Body meeting a number of statements were made which the governors would like me to share with you in this first half-term of the new academic year.

We would firstly like to acknowledge the help and support of the ' silent majority ' of parents and carers who do follow school policies , who keep up their part of the home school agreement in ensuring that their children attend school regularly and on time while supporting their learning in every way possible and by enabling their children to take advantage of every enhanced learning opportunity that is presented to them as part of the broad and balanced curriculum and extra curriculum that we all work hard to deliver at Davyhulme Primary School.

So to all of those parents and carers we say a very sincere thank you and we look forward to working closely in partnership with you to ensure that your children continue to enjoy the high quality educational experience that is offered by all members of our learning community.

To those parents and carers who require further clarification on our approach , policies and culture please pay close attention to the information below as well as other significant documentation on our website , planners and future correspondence through pupil post.

Many of the statements were to reiterate policies which have already been agreed and are contained in the current school pupil planner which every child has a copy of. If parents are in any doubt about any information contained in the planner then they should seek clarification from myself or Miss Brookes.

School Uniform

Earrings , Safety studs (any piercings) , plastic or made from any other substance are not permitted to be worn at all. (KS2 p15, p16 and p17)

Black shoes must be worn (KS2 page 13) No boots (footwear that covers the ankle). Plain black trainers were allowed during the Covid restrictions but now all pupils should make every effort to be in shoes from 31st October 2022.

Holiday Hairstyles are not permitted nor is the wearing of hair product , shaved lines or 'tramlines' (KS2 p16).

Persistent failure to conform with our uniform rules may result in internal disciplinary action being taken which may include segregation - working in isolation for longer periods of the school day. In extreme cases some pupils may be suspended for fixed term periods.

Attendance

The cost of a state education is too much money not to be valued or accounted for therefore the governors will use every available legal measure open to them to encourage parents and carers to have their children attend school every day. Two large information boards are on display at both entrances to KS1 and KS2 departments detailing the effects of missed sessions on a pupil's education.

The School's default position is to refuse all applications for absences during term time. School would still encourage all parents to apply for permission and state their reasons for taking such absences . It may be that they are one of the very few exceptions which do get authorised.

If a pupil misses 8 sessions (morning = 1 session . An afternoon = 1 session) then a fine of £60 may be applied to each parent and each child , so for an average family of four (2 adults , 2 children) the fine would = £240.

There will be very few exceptions to our default position but the Senior Leadership Team can only consider exceptional circumstances if they are made aware of such circumstances in the written application when requesting authorisation. If no written application is made then this will be one of the strands of evidence considered before a fine is issued. The recent (within the previous 3 years attendance record of pupils will also be considered in addition to any recent patterns of taking holidays during term time.

Communication

We have various forms of communication with parents and carers including: Seesaw, Parent Pay, our school website and notes in Planners. Seesaw is a platform to communicate with your child's teacher about their education, plus any concerns around friendships etc. It is not for general administration. Any information about children's absences, medical appointments or instructions for your child going home with a different parent should be made via the School Office. Teachers do not always have the opportunity to look at these messages during the school day and important communications can be missed. Please ensure that you telephone or message the School Office about any issues listed above. Parent Pay will communicate important information about school events, including letters so it is very important that all parents and carers check your emails regularly.

Yours sincerely,



Mr P McDowell

Head Teacher



Mr Mike Cornes

Chair of Governors