

ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 1 EDITION

Welcome back to school and to our Autumn 1 half term. We hope you had a restful summer break and that the children are feeling excited and ready for the year ahead. We're looking forward to a positive and purposeful start to the new school year, with lots of opportunities for the children to settle into routines, build confidence and enjoy their learning.

Last academic year, we shared how Wallbrook Primary Academy is moving forward with a new, inclusive attendance approach developed with Inclusive Attendance. Our focus is on compassion, recognition and partnership acknowledging the unique needs and stories behind each pupil's attendance. The strategy involves strong relationships, early support and shared responsibility between staff, families and pupils.

We will send our attendance newsletter out at the beginning of each half term to ensure we keep our commitment to communicating with you. It is designed to help you better understand why attendance is a key focus for our school.

Our whole school community plays a part in great attendance. Thank you for standing with us and please continue supporting your child to be in school, on time, every day.



WALLBROOK
PRIMARY ACADEMY

 **Inclusive Attendance**

WHAT'S NEW?

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER

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Reasons Given for Absences

We kindly ask families to be open and honest with us about the reasons for any absences, including holidays. This helps us keep accurate attendance records and, most importantly, allows us to support your child effectively when they return to school.

When we know why a child has been away, we can make sure they feel welcomed back and help them catch up on anything they may have missed. Being open also avoids children feeling worried or uncomfortable about what to say when they return to class.

At our school, we follow an Inclusive Attendance approach. This means every child is greeted warmly after an absence, whether they have been unwell or away for another reason. Staff take time to check in with pupils and offer reassurance – and this support is only possible when we understand the reason for their absence.

Some absences **can** be authorised by the school. These usually include:

Absences that may be authorised

- Illness, including mental health and wellbeing needs
- Medical or dental appointments that cannot be arranged outside of the school day
- Exceptional circumstances that have been agreed in advance by the Principal

Some absences **cannot** be authorised. These include:

Absences that will not be authorised

- Holidays taken during term time
- Uniform-related issues
- Head lice
- Transport difficulties
- Routine medical or dental appointments during the school day

Punctuality Reminder

8:40

Gates open

(Children are parents' responsibility)

8:45

Doors open

8:45

SODA begins

8:55

Gates close

Pupils are now late and must be signed in at the office by an adult with a valid reason given.

GREAT ATTENDANCE
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GREAT FRIENDSHIPS

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Reasons to be in school:

Starting or returning to school after the summer holiday is an important transition for a pupil in school.

Missing one or two days of their first weeks can be the same as missing up to 20% of this transition. In class this can be missing out on some of the guidance as to how and why we follow a particular routine, an explanation as to what a particular subject is or some special first visits to rooms or places around the school.

We often think pupils will just 'pick it up' but for many of our youngest learners, the missing knowledge or understanding can cause worry and sometimes this stays with them longer than we realise.

Promoting good attendance from the start can set up the right attitude for the rest of the year and we are really looking forward to working with you on this.

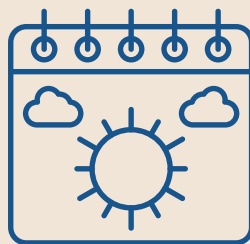
#MISS SCHOOL #MISS OUT

Platforms we use:

We use Arbor as one of our key communication platforms in school. You can use Arbor to view your child's attendance information, including their attendance dashboard, so you can keep up to date with how regularly your child is attending school. Arbor is also used to support communication with the school office, helping families to stay informed and connected.



Arbor



Attendance Contact Details:

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wallbrookprimary.academy

REMEMBER

MISSING SCHOOL
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MISSING OUT



Inclusive Attendance