



John Chilton School

Mid-Year Statistics

Pupil Attendance Report

Sept-Feb 2019/2020

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2019/2020

Introduction

Pupil absences are monitored by school staff on an on-going basis. A report is sent out daily with the names of pupils absent that day. Each absence on that report is investigated and noted.

A mid-year report and end of year report is produced every year. These reports highlight pupils whose absences are below 90%. Pupils whose absences are below 90% the previous year as well as are very closely monitored. Each pupil's absences are scrutinised and an intervention is made as appropriate. Examples of interventions are calls home, liaising with relevant school staff, and working with therapists or the nurse. Sometimes, we use a combination of interventions to help bring a child into school. This helps to provide the school with quantified information that will inform its evaluation of the school's effectiveness in meeting the needs of each child.

Due to the small number of pupils on roll at school, coupled with the issue of a small cohort of children having extended absences because of significant and complex medical needs, there is the prospect that the statistics could be skewed by an individual or small cohort. Consequently, in order to establish a more accurate and developmentally useful picture, an analysis is carried out removing the persistent absentees.

Further analysis is done to remove pupils' condition related absences (CRA.) These can vary greatly from pupil to pupil, especially when hospitalisation has occurred. These analyses are done in order to get a full understanding of attendance patterns.

A number of tables for September to February outcomes – and absence trends over time – are attached to this report.

Please also see attached confidential report of names of pupils that are under 90% and the comments for each one.

Comparative Information

Due to a small cohort of pupils having extended absences due to extenuating circumstances coupled with the timescale being halved, the average attendance is 87.07% (an increase from Sept-Feb 2018/19's 83.14%.) Extenuating circumstances are absences that are justified. For example, hospitalisation, or the pupil is no longer attending and we are awaiting their removal from school roll.

In the colder months especially, pupils tend to fall ill more than usual due to their conditions. In accordance to NHS requirements, we enforce 48-hour exclusion for any pupil

with diarrhoea and vomiting if it is arising from a viral infection. This too has a negative impact on attendance.

An analysis by pupils' individual special educational need shows that, not surprisingly, the pupils with more complex difficulties are more prone to sickness absence.

A closer analysis of the data shows that we continue to experience high absentee rates from pupils who have a complex medical issue – for example, a number of pupils had stays in hospital due to their medical conditions. We also have high absence rates from pupils who are waiting for transport arrangements from their local authority or are waiting for a carer to be in place so they can be in school safely. Year on year, we find that the pupils that are enrolling into John Chilton School are coming in with more and more complex needs. This inevitably leads to more absences.

Where appropriate, work is sent home or to the hospital (where advised by hospital hired teaching staff.) This has been useful and helps to keep children engaged with their learning when they are not at school.

A breakdown of the data shows that this cohort was affected by pupils with complex medical needs.

John Chilton School consistently engages with parents to make sure they book holidays, appointments, etc. during term time. A leaflet and letter have been sent out to all parents explaining the importance of coming to school every day in a timely manner. All new parents are briefed about attendance when they enrol their child into school.

Action

- We will continue use CME guidelines to follow-up all unexplained absences on the first day.
- The school will continue to ensure that absences are monitored on a mid-year and end of year basis. This is in addition to the more concise half termly reports that are produced.
- The school will ensure to take steps to be actively involved in supporting families in need.
- In line with LA and DfE, John Chilton School will keep its Attendance Policy up to date.
- As decided by Governors, the target for attendance during 2019/2020 will remain 90%.
- We will continue to remind parents to send appointment letters to school whenever their child had missed school due to an appointment.

- The school will continue to provide, where appropriate, home learning activities for pupils who are absent from school (e.g. convalescing; post-operative) but well enough to engage in such activities.

Summary of Outcomes

Average school attendance Sept-Feb 2018/19: 83.14%

Average school attendance Sept-Feb 2019/2020: 87.07%

Average attendance less all medical and illness more than 2 days Sept-Feb 2018/19: 97.78%

Avg. attendance less all medical and illness more than 2 days Sept-Feb 2019/2020: 97.08%

Main Outcomes

Number of Pupils in Data Set: 120 (includes leavers since 01/09/2019)

Average School Attendance: **87.07%**

Pupils attending at or over 90%: **68 pupils (56.67%)**

Top 9 CRA Pupils

Raw Attendance less top 9 CRA pupils: **89.70%** vs. Raw Whole School Attendance 87.07%

Whole School CRA Attendance less top 9 CRA pupils: **97.67%** vs. Whole School CRA: 97.08%

Average Attendance Analysis for Primary and Secondary

Group	Average	Average Less CRA
Primary (44 pupils) 36.7%	85.20%	96.05%
Secondary (76 pupils) 63.1%	88.15%	97.67%

Percentage Pupil Attendance Trends

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Sept – Feb 2018/19	Sept – Feb 2019-2020
87%	87%	87.03%	83.14%	87.07%