



## **Covid-19 Attendance policy addendum**

**September 2020**

**Effective from:** 1st September 2020

**Signed:**

**Martin Jones (Head of School)**

**Key Points:**

From 1st September 2020 students in all year groups will return to school full-time.

It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development.

Missing out on more time in the classroom risks students falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well at school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from 1st September. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply.

**Expectations:**

- Attendance is compulsory for all year groups from September 2020. It is parents' duty to ensure that their child attends school regularly. It is our aim that students should have attendance above 96%
- Parents should inform the school of any absences in accordance with the attendance policy.
- If a student is displaying one or more of the three listed [symptoms](#) of Covid-19 they should not attend school. Parents/guardians should inform the school immediately and arrange a test. They should self-isolate until they receive the test result. Their family should also self-isolate. If the test is negative and they are no longer displaying symptoms they can return to school as normal. If the test is positive they must self-isolate for at least 10 days or until they no longer have symptoms. Their families should self-isolate for 14 days.
- From 1st June if a student did not attend school despite not being ill, self-isolating or shielding all absences were recorded as authorised. This is no longer the case from September as it has been deemed safe for schools to re-open fully to all students. Any such absences will be recorded as unauthorised and all procedures in the full attendance policy will be followed.

- Shielding advice for all adults and children paused on 1 August 2020. This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding.
- If in future, rates of the disease rise locally, children still on the shielding list (or family members still on the shielding list) may be contacted by the government and advised to stay at home and shield during the period where rates remain high. Families will receive a letter if they are required to shield again that parents should share this with the school. Schools should contact parents of pupils who are shielding when measures in the local area are lifted and shielding is paused again, to set out the expectation that they can return to school.
- It is the school's responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence in accordance with the attendance policy.

**Attendance codes:**

- Where an absence is for self-isolation due to coronavirus an X code will be used. This is an authorised absence.

**Remote education:**

Where it is necessary for a student to shield or self-isolate they will be given access to remote education where possible.