

Supporting families to help children to have good attendance at school.

Expect

At Armley Park Primary School, we expect children to attend school every day unless there is a legitimate reason for absence. All children have the right to a good education and if they are regularly absent, that right is taken away from them. We have high expectations for attendance and we hope that all children will want to be here each day.



Monitor

Attendance at school is monitored each day. If we have not received a reason for absence, we will try to make contact with the parents/carers by telephone, email or home visit. Attendance data is analysed to celebrate those children who come to school regularly and to determine which families need additional support.



Listen and Understand

Each absence is treated in the same way – staff will listen to parents/carers about the reasons for absence and offer support if appropriate to do so. We will try to remove barriers to good attendance and help children to attend school regularly. We also hope that parents/carers understand the importance of good attendance at school.



Offer Support

If the school are able to help to remove the barriers to children attending school regularly, we will try and do so. If there are other factors within the family which make it difficult for children to attend school, we will always try and support with these or refer to other agencies if we are unable to help.



Formalise Support

If the support already offered has not been successful, we will formalise the support to ensure that parents are clear in the consequences of not attending school regularly. The expectations of engagement with this will be made clear and the consequences of continued poor attendance will be explained.



Enforce

When attendance is consistently poor and the support provided by school, or other agencies, has been unsuccessful, we will enforce attendance through statutory interventions or prosecution. This is not how we want to work with families but if families have not engaged, we do not have any other choice.