

Goresbrook School – Attendance Policy and Procedures (Academies)

2025 – 2026

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Date of last central office review:	JULY 2025	Review Period:	1 year (minimum)
Date of next central office review:	JULY 2026	Owner:	Olly Tyler
Date of next school level review:	September 2026		
Type of policy:	United Learning Policy	Group Board:	Group Board approves United Learning Template Policy
		Local Governing Body:	Approves completed school policy

Summary – Attendance at a Glance

Attendance Matters

Here at Goresbrook School we have the highest expectations across all areas of school life including attendance. We value positive relationships between both staff and pupils, and want all pupils to feel they belong here and are valued. We work with our pupils to ensure that they have the highest possible attendance at school. We believe that this is the best way for them to succeed and to get the most out of all we have to offer.

There is a clear link between academic outcomes and school attendance. We want all pupils to achieve excellent outcomes to give themselves the very best chance in life.

There are 175 non-school days per year for holidays, shopping and appointments. There is no need, except in extreme circumstances to miss a day's education. If you miss one session in a week (remember, there are two sessions per day) your attendance is 90%.

This means you miss 19 days of education in a year and risk dropping one grade in your GCSEs.

It is vital we work together to teach our pupils the value of attending school each and every day. However, we do appreciate that at times, pupils may not be able to attend school. We ask our parents and carers to follow the processes below. They support our safeguarding procedures.

Should you have a concern about your child's attendance, then we ask that you contact us to discuss this. We believe in strong partnerships across all parts of school life. This includes attending school.

It is also important to us that pupils arrive to school on time, and they must be at school by 8.30.

Absence through illness or unforeseen circumstances

Parents must contact the school when their child is absent to explain that absence. This can be done as follows:

Primary phase: calling 0203 597 6666 option 2 or email to primaryattendance@goresbrookschool.org.uk giving the following details:

- Full name of pupil
- Pupil's Year group and class
- Full name of person reporting absence and relation to child
- Reason for absence

Secondary and Sixth Form phase: 0203 597 6666 option 1 or email to secondaryattendance@goresbrookschool.org.uk giving the following details:

- Full name of pupil
- Pupil's Year group
- Full name of person reporting absence and relation to child
- Reason for absence

Do expect to receive a call back from the school to discuss your child's absence and to see if we can support in any way. If pupils suffer any form of injury, then we ask that you contact the

school to make us aware. This is so we can do a risk assessment with you. It will identify impacts of the injury and the support your child may need. See section 7.3 of the full policy for further information.

Authorisation of Absence Due to Illness

While we understand that children may occasionally be too unwell to attend school, we are committed to maintaining high standards of attendance and safeguarding. Therefore, we will only authorise absences due to illness without medical evidence for up to three consecutive days.

From the fourth day onwards, we require medical confirmation that the pupil is too unwell to attend. This can be in the form of:

- A doctor's consultation notes, or
- A prescription issued during the period of illness.

Please note that appointment confirmations (e.g. texts or emails showing a booked appointment) do not constitute medical evidence and will not be accepted for authorising extended absence.

Additionally, we are unable to authorise absences for mild or non-debilitating illnesses, such as:

- Mild cold symptoms
- Headaches
- Period cramps
- General tiredness or similar conditions

We encourage parents and carers to support their child in attending school wherever possible. If you are unsure whether your child is well enough to attend, please contact the school for guidance.

Attending an Appointment

Appointments during the school day, medical appointments should be made outside of school hours where possible. Where this is not possible, the school require at least 2 days' notice for all medical appointments, excluding emergency appointments. You must inform the school immediately of any emergency appointments.

Primary phase parents and carers must email primaryattendance@goresbrookschool.org.uk with the details of the appointment.

Secondary phase parents and carers must email secondaryattendance@goresbrookschool.org.uk with the details of the appointment. Secondary phase student's must collect appointment pass on the day of the appointment from the attendance office. If attendance team has not been informed

of an appointment in advance, and/or a child has not collected the appointment pass, this unfortunately may result in a missed appointment.

All absences, whether authorised or not, will affect a child's overall attendance percentage and therefore, will have a negative impact on their learning and outcomes. If your child is absent from school due to a medical appointment, they will not achieve 100% attendance. Your child is expected to go to the appointment from school and come back to school, also depending on the time of the appointment we will ask you to send your child to school then go to the appointment. We do not want students to miss any learning due to appointment.

Pupils must be picked up and returned to school if their appointment ends during the school day. For more details, check section 6.2 of the full policy.

Known Absence

Granting a leave of absence will only be made in exceptional circumstances. Each application will be considered individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind the request. If a leave of absence is granted it is for the Principal to determine the length of the time the pupil can be away from school. To support your request you may be asked to provide additional evidence. It is extremely unlikely that a leave of absence will be granted for the purposes of a family holiday. To request a leave of absence please follow the procedures below:

Primary Phase: Parents/carers must email primaryattendance@goresbrookschoo.org.uk with the reason for absence, dates of absence and the date your child will return to school, this will be sent to the Principal and you will be contacted either by phone, email or by post.

Secondary Phase: Parents/carers must email secondaryattendance@goresbrookschoo.org.uk with the reason for absence, dates of absence and the date your child will return to school, this will be sent to the Principal and you will be contacted either by phone, email or by post. If the Principal does not authorise it, then any absence is 'unauthorised' and can incur a penalty.

We must follow legal rules. Therefore, we cannot approve holiday requests during term time. Additionally, we may issue penalty notices. For more details, please check the Attendance Policy and Procedures (section 6.1).

Support

We take absence very seriously. We are committed to supporting any child who is finding it difficult to attend school regularly. We will target support for any pupil whose attendance falls below 95%. Further information on support can be found in the full policy.

Punctuality

The school day starts in Primary at 8.50am, children can enter the building from 8.30am. The school day ends at 3:20pm. Your child will be marked as late if they arrive after 9am. Registers close at 9:30am and arrival after 9:30am time will mean the child is marked as unauthorised absence for their morning mark.

The school day starts in Secondary at 8:25am, children can enter the gate from 8.15am. Your child will be marked as late if they arrive after 8:30am. Registers close at 9:00am and arrival after that time will mean the child is marked as unauthorised absence for their morning mark. The school day ends at 3:30pm.

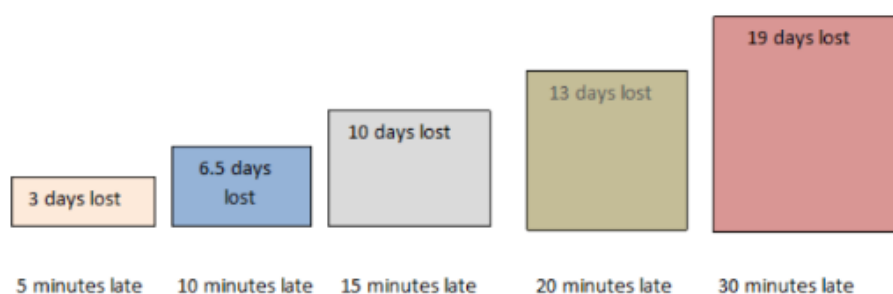
Lateness means they miss out on important routines which help get their day off to a positive start. Late arriving pupils also disrupt lessons during the day for others.

How we manage lateness to school and lessons

Lateness to school

Punctuality is monitored closely by the Attendance Officer, Attendance Manager and Head of Years and Class Teachers. At Goresbrook we expect all students to arrive on time so that no learning time is lost. We believe that all students should be in the habit of arriving early to school to form good habits in the future.

If a student arrives late to school every day, their learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school every day over a school year adds up to lost learning time over one academic year.



Lateness to lessons

If your child is late to lesson, they will be issued a 30 minute rerouting

Parents may face prosecution if their child is often late after the register has closed. We'll watch for this and offer support. If the problem persists, we might take action.

If a child is regularly arriving late to school, parents may be asked to come in for a meeting, students can place on a punctuality report and in some cases parents may be issued with legal action if punctuality is below expectations.

The rest of this document outlines our Attendance Policy and Procedures. We encourage all parents to review it. This ensures they understand how we handle attendance. If getting your child to school is hard, please contact us immediately by emailing secondaryattendance@goresbrookschool.org.uk and we will explore support avenues.

Home Visits and Welfare Checks

As part of our commitment to safeguarding and promoting student wellbeing, Goresbrook School may carry out home visits when deemed necessary. These visits are conducted in line with our attendance and welfare procedures and may occur for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to:

- When a student has an unreported absence, a first-day welfare visit may be conducted. If contact cannot be made, the school may continue with daily visits and involve external agencies where appropriate.
- Where there are ongoing concerns about a student's attendance, despite absence being reported, a home visit may be arranged to better understand the circumstances and offer support.
- For students in exam years, a first-day home visit will be carried out in the event of absence to minimise disruption to learning and to provide support in ensuring students maintain positive patterns of attendance.

Part A - Policy

1. Introduction

This Attendance Policy outlines the culture and approach to supporting good attendance at our academy. The second part of the document outlines the more detailed procedures, roles and responsibilities related to pupil attendance that operate at our academy. Through all that we do to manage attendance, we are committed to creating a positive learning environment, supporting pupil achievement, and complying with legal requirements.

This is a successful academy, and all pupils play their part in making it so. We aim for an environment which enables and encourages all members of the community to be proud to belong and to achieve their best. For our pupils to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and should be at school, on time, every day the school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable. It is very important therefore that parents¹ make sure that children attends regularly, and this policy sets out how together we will achieve this.

Regular attendance at school is of critical importance to a child's education. Evidence tells us that the pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 and key stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment. Any absence affects the pattern of a pupil's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning. Any pupil's absence disrupts the learning of others in the same teaching groups by disrupting classroom routines. **Ensuring your child's regular attendance is your legal responsibility.**

The principles of a 'support first approach' are adopted and we seek to:

¹ The definition of a parent can be found in the Education Act 1996, and this applies to all the legislation to which this guidance relates. In addition to the child's birth parents, references to parents in this guidance include any person who has parental responsibility (which includes the local authority where it has a care order in respect of the child) and any person (for example, a foster carer) who has care of the child. To reflect this, this guidance uses 'parent' to refer to both parents and carers.

Support first approach (as set out in DFE Guidance)	
Expect	Aspire to high standards of attendance from all pupils and parents and build a culture where all can, and want to, be in school and ready to learn by prioritising attendance improvement across the school.
Monitor	Rigorously use attendance data to identify patterns of poor attendance (at individual and cohort level) as soon as possible so all parties can work together to resolve them before they become entrenched.
Listen and understand	When a pattern is spotted, discuss with pupils and parents to listen to and understand barriers to attendance and agree how all partners can work together to resolve them.
Facilitate support	Remove barriers in school and help pupils and parents to access the support they need to overcome the barriers outside of school. This might include an early help or whole family plan where absence is a symptom of wider issues.
Formalise support	Where absence persists and voluntary support is not working or not being engaged with, partners should work together to explain the consequences clearly and ensure support is also in place to enable families to respond. Depending on the circumstances this may include formalising support through an attendance contract or education supervision order.
Enforce	Where all other avenues have been exhausted and support is not working or not being engaged with, enforce attendance through statutory intervention: a penalty notice in line with the National Framework or prosecution to protect the pupil's right to an education.

2. Aims

Our aim is to create a school environment where children feel they belong and want to come to school. We believe our school is a great place to learn, and that being in school day in, day out, is in the best interests of all our pupils. However, we recognise that there will be times when there may be barriers that prevent children from attending school. In these instances we will act early to understand the issue, provide support and work with the child and their family to get them back to regular attendance as quickly as possible.

We believe that one of the most important factors in promoting good attendance is the development of positive attitudes towards school and a sense of belonging. To this end, we strive to make our school a happy and rewarding experience for all children, and to foster positive and mutually respectful relationships with parents.

By promoting good attendance and punctuality we aim to:

- Make good attendance and punctuality a priority for all those involved in the school community.
- Raise our pupils' awareness of the importance of good attendance and punctuality.
- Provide support, advice and guidelines to parents, pupils and staff.

- Work in partnership with parents, including regularly informing them about their child's absence and attendance levels.
- Support pupils back into school following a lengthy or unavoidable period of absence and provide support to build confidence and bridge gaps.
- Celebrate and reward good attendance and punctuality.

This policy sets out our school's position on attendance and details the procedures that all parents² must follow to report their child's absence from school and to remind them of their legal duty, to ensure their child attends school regularly.

This policy will be applied fairly and consistently, considering the individual needs of our pupils and their families who have specific barriers to attendance. Therefore, in the development of our policy we have considered our obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

It is vital that children develop regular attendance habits at an early age. Therefore, the school will encourage parents of children who are not yet of compulsory school age, to send their children to every session that is available to them. If the child is unable to attend the school for any reason, the parent should inform the school of the reason on the first day of absence. If the school is concerned about a pupil's attendance for any reason, we will contact the parent to discuss the matter, in the first instance.

We will also support parents to perform their legal duty to ensure their children of compulsory³ school age attend regularly and will promote and support punctuality in attending lessons.

We want our pupils to go to school every day unless they are not well enough to attend. We believe that children who attend school regularly are more likely to feel settled in school, maintain friendships, keep up with their learning and gain the greatest benefit from their education. We want all our pupils to enjoy school, grow up to become emotionally resilient, confident and competent adults who can realise their full potential. Regular attendance and punctuality are essential in the workplace and children who are used to attending school on time, and on every occasion unless they are too unwell to attend, will be better prepared for the attendance expectations in the workplace.

In April 2017 the Supreme Court clarified the definition of regular attendance to be attendance "in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school", therefore if an absence is not authorised by the school, the pupil's attendance is deemed to be irregular.

We will do all we can to encourage our pupils to attend. We will also make available the best provision we can for any pupil who needs additional support in school or who is prevented from attending school, due to a medical condition.

Please see DfE guidance documents '[Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions - December 2015](#)', '[Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs- January 2013](#)' and '[Mental health issues affecting a pupil's attendance: guidance for schools - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)' – or ask the school for printed copies.

² Education law defines parents as: all natural parents, whether they are married or not; any person who has parental responsibility for a child or young person; and any person who has care of a child or young person i.e., lives with and looks after the child. In this policy the term 'parent' includes parents and carers.

³ A child becomes of 'compulsory school age' on the 1st January, 1st April or 1st September following their 5th birthday and ceases to be of compulsory school age on the last Friday in June of Year 11.

2.1. Effects of non-attendance

The table below indicates how what might seem like just a few days absence can result in children missing a significant number of lessons.

Attendance during school year	Days lost in a year	Which is approximately	Number of lessons missed
95%	9.5 Days	2 Weeks	60 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	120 Lessons

3. Safeguarding and Attendance

Our school will monitor trends and patterns of absence for all pupils as a part of our standard procedures. However, we are aware that sudden or gradual changes in a pupil's attendance may indicate additional or more extreme safeguarding issues. In line with government guidance [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) we will investigate and report any suspected safeguarding cases on to the relevant authorities. As part of our safeguarding duty and our standard procedures, we will inform the Local Authority and/or the Police of the details of any pupil who is absent from school when the school cannot establish their whereabouts and is concerned for the pupil's welfare.

4. Legislation and Guidance

This policy meets the requirements of the government guidance 2024 [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\) \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) from the Department for Education (DfE), and refers to the DfE's 2015 statutory guidance on [School Attendance Parental Responsibility Measures](#). These documents are drawn from legislation setting out the legal powers and duties that govern school attendance including:

- The Education Act 1996
- The Children Act 1989
- The Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- The Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003
- The Education and Inspections Act 2006
- The Sentencing Act 2020
- The School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024
- The Education (Parenting Contracts and Parenting Orders) (England) Regulations 2007
- The Education (Information about Individual Pupils) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2024
- The Education (Penalty Notices) (England) (Amendments) Regulations 2024

5. Using data to support improvements in attendance

Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence may seriously affect their learning. The Department for Education (DfE) defines a pupil as a 'persistent absentee' when they miss 10% or more schooling across the school year, for whatever reason. For pupils who miss more than 50% of possible sessions they are defined as 'severely absent'.

The school will ensure that data, including the DfE's View Your Education Data platform, is routinely monitored to identify emerging attendance issues and will seek to prevent any pupil becoming persistently or severely absent. This will include: identifying the individual needs of pupils; working closely with families and wider support services to remove barriers to

attendance; and where a formalised approach in conjunction with the local authority is required in line with the DfE guidance [Working Together to Improve School Attendance](#).

6. Understanding Barriers to Attendance

In relation to understanding barriers to attendance, we will ensure all pupils and parents are treated with dignity and staff will model respectful relationships to build a positive understanding between home and school that can be the foundation of good attendance. In communicating with parents, we will highlight the link between attendance and attainment and wider wellbeing and enhance their understanding of what good attendance looks like. Where a pupil or family needs support with attendance we will identify who is best placed to work with them to address issues.

We will support pupils and parents by working together to address any in-school barriers to attendance. Where barriers are outside of the school's control, all partners should work together to support pupils and parents to access any support they may need voluntarily.

Where absence intensifies, so should the support provided, which will require the school to work in tandem with the local authority and other relevant partners.

Some pupils face greater barriers to attendance than their peers. These can include pupils who suffer from long term medical conditions or who have special educational needs and disabilities. In working with parents to improve attendance, we are mindful of the barriers these pupils face and will put additional support in place where necessary to help them access their full-time education.

Reduced timetables will only be used in exceptional circumstances, for a limited period and to support pupils to reintegrate back into education to access fulltime provision.

The school is committed to share information and work collaboratively with other schools in the area, local authorities and other partners when absence is at risk of becoming persistent or severe

7. Staff Training on Attendance

Improving attendance requires knowledge of guidance and regulations but also expertise in working with families to remove barriers to attendance and safeguard pupils. Just as those barriers are regularly evolving, so too is the training that school staff require to address them. The school therefore will facilitate training for all staff to understand

- the importance of good attendance and that absence is almost always a symptom of wider circumstances,
- the law and requirements of schools including on the keeping of registers
- the school/trust strategies and procedures for tracking, following up and improving attendance,
- the processes for working with other partners to provide more intensive support to pupils who need it.

For staff with specialist attendance responsibilities, they will receive training to include

- the necessary skills to interpret and analyse attendance data,
- and any additional training that would be beneficial to support pupils and pupil cohorts overcome commonly seen barriers to attendance.

Part B - What the Law Says and Our Procedures

1. Roles and Responsibilities

There is an allocated member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), Olly Tyler, who leads on the monitoring and analysis of whole school Attendance. It is their role to ensure that attendance remains high across the school and that if there are any patterns of falling attendance, this is acted upon in a prompt manner and support is provided where necessary. The SLT lead for Attendance is responsible for ensuring that the school's coding meet legal requirements stipulated in the DfE's "Working together to improve school attendance (2024) guidance. In instances whereby a student's attendance may be indicative of a Safeguarding concern, it is their responsibility as the Designated Safeguarding Lead to ensure this is reported to the appropriate services in a timely manner. The SLT lead for Attendance is also responsible for ensuring that students understand what excellent attendance looks like and the importance of attend school with regards to academic outcomes. In instances whereby a parent elects to home educate (EHE), it is the Attendance Lead's responsibility to meet with parents and explore all barriers that may be preventing a child from attending Goresbrook School. They must act appropriately to try and reduce these barriers and assume school attendance. In instances whereby the parent still wishes to EHE, the Attendance Lead provides families with a 10-day cooling off period, whereby the decision is reviewed at the end of this time. The SLT Attendance Lead is also responsible for the effective monitoring of the Attendance of Vulnerable groups including all students with social care involvement, SEND students, Pupil Premium students and all other key groups. With the support of the Attendance Manager, their attendance patterns are monitored weekly and any appropriate action, often including liaising with Children's Service, takes place. It is also their responsibility to communicate patterns of attendance to the wider Senior Leadership Team so that Attendance is made 'everyone's business'.

There is an Attendance Manager, whose roles and responsibilities include the collating, monitoring and analysis of Attendance data which is shared with the SLT Attendance Lead. The Attendance Manager works collaboratively with the Senior Leadership Team across all phases of the school to ensure that the appropriate support and actions are put in place. They report attendance daily to the wider pastoral team and lead on ensuring that parental contact for first day absences takes place. They are also responsible for, alongside the Attendance Officer, conducting home visits where there are concerns regarding Attendance. If a student in exam years is not present, a first day absence home visit will be conducted. In instances whereby attendance is falling they arrange parental meetings to take place and an 'Attendance Support Plan' to be implemented as a mechanism of support. These meetings are held in a supportive capacity and all strategies to promote improving attendance are explored and implemented. When support mechanisms are ineffective in improving attendance, it is their responsibility to liaise with the local authority to pursue legal action. The Attendance Manager also monitors for accurate register taking as part of our wider Safeguarding Policy and ensures that staff are appropriately trained on accurate register taking. The Attendance Manager also leads on the praise systems in place to promote and celebrate excellent school attendance. They ensure that students who regularly attend Goresbrook School are rewarded. The Attendance Manager is also responsible for school admissions, ensuring that the school are compliant with the Local Authority's admissions policy. If a child leaves Goresbrook School, the Attendance Manager is responsible for the off-rolling process, ensuring this is compliant with the Local Authority's Policy.

The Local Governing Body

The Local Governing Body is responsible for monitoring attendance figures for the whole school on at least a termly basis. It also holds the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy.

There is an allocated Governor for Safeguarding, Ieuan Bennett, whose role also includes the monitoring of Attendance across the school. It is their role to hold school leaders, including the SLT Attendance Leader and Principal, responsible for whole school attendance ensuring that the school's target of 97% attendance is met.

The Headteacher/Principal

The headteacher/principal is responsible for ensuring this policy is implemented consistently across the school, and for monitoring school-level absence data and reporting it to governors.

The headteacher/principal also supports other staff in monitoring the attendance of individual pupils and requests fixed-penalty notices, where necessary.

The Attendance Champion

Olly Tyler, the SLT Attendance Lead, is the school's designated Attendance Champion. It is their role to ensure that positive patterns of attendance are prompted throughout the school and that they monitor attendance by group such as pupils entitled to Free School Meals, Pupil Premium pupils, pupils with SEND, Children in Care, attendance by Ethnicity and Language (English/EAL).

Attendance Officer

The Attendance Officer is responsible for:

- Monitoring attendance data at the school and individual pupil level and ensuring this is effectively communicated to SLT and the wider pastoral team including the Safeguarding Team.
- Reporting concerns about attendance to the headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) as appropriate.
- Arranging calls and meetings with parents to discuss attendance issues
- Monitoring daily attendance and making daily attendance calls and visits to students who are absent.
- Co-ordinating requests for Term-time Leave of Absence (this includes liaison with the DSL and Safeguarding Team) and advises the headteacher as requested.

The Role of the Head of Year

Heads of Year are responsible for ensuring their year group's attendance is high and that absence from school remains low. They work collaboratively with the Attendance Manager to create weekly actions that support in improving year group attendance. They are also responsible for liaising with parents to support in improving attendance. Heads of Year will attend attendance support meetings and will also tackle any barriers that may be preventing a student from attending school regularly.

Class Teachers/Coaches

Class teachers and Coaches are responsible for recording attendance daily, using the correct codes, and submitting this information to the school office in a timely manner. Class teachers

are also responsible for ensuring that students who have missed school are appropriately caught up so that impacts on progress are limited.

2. Contents of the Admissions Register

The admission register (sometimes referred to as the school roll) must contain specific personal details of every pupil in the school along with the date of admission or re-admission to the school, information regarding parents and carers, and details of the school last attended. The school will enter pupils on the admission register at the beginning of the first day on which the school has agreed with, or been notified by the parent, that the pupil will attend.

A pupil's name can only lawfully be deleted from the admission register if a reason set out in regulation 9 of the **School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024**.

It is vital that the admission register is kept up to date, it is a legal document. Therefore, we encourage parents to inform the school of any changes whenever they occur and ensure the admission register is amended as soon as possible.

3. Contents of Attendance Register

The law makes it clear that schools must take the attendance register at the start of the morning session of each school day and once during the afternoon session. On each occasion the register is taken, the appropriate attendance and absence code must be entered for every pupil. Please refer to **Working Together To Improve School Attendance** for the code descriptors and also **Appendix 2** of this document. The school must record whether each pupil is:

- Attending, or
- Absent

Effective and timely use and sharing of register data is critical to safeguard children, improve attendance and is supported using our electronic Management Information System to record attendance information. Our registers will be preserved for 6 years from the date after the last entry was made.

4. Attending the School (and Lateness)

Pupils are marked present (/ \) if they are in school when the register is taken. If a pupil leaves the school premises after registration they are still counted as present for statistical purposes.

It is the duty of parents to ensure that children attend school on time. This encourages habits of good timekeeping and lessens any possible classroom disruption.

Our pupils must arrive by **08:50 am** on each school day for Primary Students.

Our pupils must arrive by **08:30 am** on each school day for Secondary and Sixth Form students.

Our morning register is taken at **08:50 am** and will be kept open until **09:20am** for Primary students.

Our morning register is taken at **08:30 am** and will be kept open until **09:00am** for Secondary and Sixth Form students.

Our afternoon register is taken at **13:00 pm** for Key Stage 3 students and **13:50pm** for Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form students and will be kept open until **13:30pm** and **14:20pm** respectively.

A pupil who arrives late but before the register has closed will be marked as late (L) – which counts as present.

If a pupil arrives after the register has closed they will be marked with the unauthorised absence code “Late after registers close” (U) which is an unauthorised absence mark.

However, if the pupil is late arriving due to a valid reason such as an unavoidable medical appointment, the absence will be authorised and coded accordingly. See DfE guidance [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance) (publishing.service.gov.uk)

5. Attending a place other than the school

Pupils are marked as attending a place other than the school if they are present for the assigned session. These codes include:

- Code K Attending education provision arranged by the local authority
- Code V: Attending an educational visit or trip
- Code P: Participating in a sporting activity
- Code W: Attending work experience
- Code B: Attending any other approved education activity
- Code D: Dual registered at another setting

Our school retains responsibilities for the safeguarding and welfare of pupils attending an approved educational activity. Our school must be satisfied that appropriate measures have been taken to safeguard the pupil. Our school should ensure that we have in place arrangements whereby providers notify the school of any absence. Our school must record the pupil’s absence using the relevant absence code.

If a pupil is attending an alternative education provider such as another school or Pupil Referral Unit for part or all of their education, our school will make arrangements for the pupil to be dual registered at the other setting and mark our registers accordingly.

If a pupil is attending an alternative education provider arranged by the school, which is not a school or Pupil Referral Unit, for part or all their education, we will mark the sessions which the pupil attends the alternative setting as code B (any other approved educational activity).

The school expects the alternative provision (AP) to notify us of any absences by individual pupils, to ensure we become aware of any attendance concerns as soon as possible and take follow up action as necessary. Attendance updates will be provided on a daily basis, or more frequently if agreed with the alternative setting. Any attendance concerns will be followed up by us, in conjunction with the Alternative Provision (AP).

6. Absent – Leave of absence

A leave of absence means that the school has given approval in advance for a pupil of compulsory school age to be away from the school. These codes are classified for statistical purposes as ‘authorised absence’ which means the pupil’s absence is with permission granted by the school. These codes include:

- Code C1: Leave of absence for the purpose of participating in a regulated performance or undertaking regulated employment abroad
- Code M: Leave of absence for the purpose of attending a medical or dental appointment

- Code J1: Leave of absence for the purpose of attending an interview for employment or for admission to another educational institution
- Code S: Leave of absence for the purpose of studying for a public examination
- Code X: Non-compulsory school age pupil not required to attend school
- Code C2: Leave of absence for a compulsory school age pupil subject to a part-time timetable
- Code C: Leave of absence for exceptional circumstance

6.1. Leave of Absence Requests – ‘Exceptional Circumstances’

The law does not grant parents the automatic right to take their child out of school during term time.

Only exceptional circumstances warrant an authorised leave of absence. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance. The school will consider each application individually, considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind the request. The request must be made by the parent with whom the child normally lives, and permission must be sought in advance. The school will not grant leave of absence unless there are exceptional circumstances. The school must be satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances, based on the individual facts and circumstances of the case; following consultation with other staff as required, including the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days the pupil can be away from school. A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school’s discretion.

Circumstances which could be authorised include significant family emergencies or funerals. However, parents will also be aware that, wherever possible, it can be better for children to continue to attend school normally during difficult family times.

Parents should complete a Leave of Absence Request form which is available from the school. If a parent wishes to take their child out of school during term time, they must make a formal request to the school’s Attendance team via email to secondaryattendance@goresbrookschoo.org.uk or for primary students using primaryattendance@goresbrookschoo.org.uk. This will then be discussed with the Principal. It is at their discretion as to whether this absence will be organised or not, depending on the circumstances.

The request should be submitted as soon as it is anticipated; and wherever possible, at least **four weeks** before the absence. **Although such absence may be unauthorised, it is better that we know your child is safe, rather than missing.** Please be aware that you may be required to provide us with additional evidence to support your request. If we have any concerns about possible safeguarding risks such as risk of FGM or Forced Marriage, we will follow the necessary protocols.

All term time absence for children in care should be discussed at the child’s Personal Education Planning (PEP) meeting in advance where possible and agreed with the Social Care and Virtual School. This permission should be gained before school is approached for approval. The school will contact the Virtual School in relation to any requests for term time absence for a child in care.

6.2 Medical/Dental Appointments

Parents should try to make appointments outside school hours wherever possible. Where appointments during school time are unavoidable, the pupil should only be out of school for the minimum amount of time necessary for the appointment. It is not acceptable for a child to miss

a whole day's schooling for an appointment, unless necessary, in which case the school will need an explanation as to why this is.

No pupil will be allowed to leave the school site to attend a medical appointment during the school day without parental confirmation.

Advance notice is required for medical or dental appointments, unless it's an emergency appointment, and must be supported by providing the school with sight of, or a copy of, the appointment card or letter – only then will the absence be authorised. When notifying the school of an unavoidable medical or dental appointment, it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to inform the Attendance Team via email at least 3 days prior to the appointment taking place. This should be done by emailing the team using secondaryattendance@goresbrookschool.org.uk for secondary students and primaryattendance@goresbrookschool.org.uk for primary students.

6.3 Part-time timetables - Leave of absence for a compulsory school age pupil subject to a part-time timetable

Pupils are entitled to a full-time education, suitable to their age, ability and aptitude, and any special educational needs or disabilities that they may have.

If, for any reason, our school is unable to provide a pupil with a full-time education due to the pupil's needs, we will work with the pupil, parent and other agencies where appropriate, to come to a mutually convenient arrangement. Any reduced timetables will be for the shortest amount of time possible, whilst arrangements are made to support the pupil's return to full-time provision as soon as possible.

7. Absent – other authorised reasons

Absent due to other authorised reasons means that the school has given approval in advance for a pupil of compulsory school age to be away from the school or has accepted an explanation offered afterwards as justification for absence. These codes are classified for statistical purposes as 'authorised absence'. These codes include:

- Code T: Parent travelling for occupational purposes
- Code R: Religious observance
- Code I: Illness (not medical or dental appointment)
- Code E: Suspended or permanently excluded and no alternative provision made

7.1. Mobile pupil - Parent travelling for occupational purposes

The school will authorise the absence of a mobile pupil of no fixed abode who is unable to attend school because they are travelling with their parent who is engaged in a trade or business of such a nature as to require them to travel from place to place. This is subject to certain limits, depending on the child's age and number of sessions absent. The school will discuss cases individually with Traveller parents as necessary. Parents should let the school know of their plans as far in advance as possible. Authorised Traveller absence will be recorded appropriately in the register.

To help ensure continuity of education for Traveller children, wherever possible, the child should attend school elsewhere when their family is travelling for occupational purposes. In which case the child will be dual registered at that school and this school, which is their 'main' school.

Children from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities whose families do not travel for occupational purposes are expected to register at school and attend as normal. They are subject to the same rules as other children in terms of the requirement to attend school regularly.

7.2. Religious Observance

Our school acknowledges the multi-faith nature of the school community and recognises that on some occasions, religious festivals may fall outside of school holidays or weekends.

In accordance with the law, the school will authorise **one day's absence** for a day exclusively set apart for religious observance by the religious body to which the parent belongs. Should any additional days be necessary, they should be requested in advance using the leave of absence in term time process. Additional days taken without exceptional circumstances will be recorded in the register as unauthorised absence. If necessary, the school will seek advice from the parents' religious body, to confirm whether the day is set apart.

7.3. Illness

In most cases, absences due to illness that are reported in line with the school's absence reporting procedures will be authorised for up to three consecutive days, unless there is a genuine concern about the authenticity of the illness.

In accordance with the Department for Education guidance '*Working together to improve school attendance*' (*applies from 19 August 2024*), if the authenticity of the illness is in doubt, the school may request medical evidence. This may include:

- A doctor's consultation notes
- Pharmacy consultation notes
- A prescription
- Or other appropriate documentation confirming the pupil was medically unfit to attend school

Please note that appointment confirmations (e.g. texts or emails showing a booked appointment) do not constitute medical evidence and will not be accepted for authorising absence beyond three days.

We do not request medical evidence unnecessarily. However, the school may ask the parent to obtain a letter from the GP or seek parental consent to contact the pupil's GP directly, in order to better support the pupil's needs.

If the school is not satisfied with the authenticity of the illness, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Where a pupil has a high level and/or frequency of absence, the school may require medical evidence for any future illness-related absences in order to authorise them. Parents will be informed in advance if this expectation applies.

It remains the parent's responsibility to report any illness-related absence to the school. Absences not reported on the first day may not be authorised.

To inform the school of any illness related absences, you must report this daily to the Attendance team by using the following methods:

Primary phase: calling 0203 597 6666 option 2 or email to primaryattendance@goresbrookschool.org.uk giving the following details:

- Full name of pupil
- Pupil's Year group and class
- Full name of person reporting absence and relation to child
- Reason for absence

Secondary and Sixth Form phase: 0203 597 6666 option 1 or email to secondaryattendance@goresbrookschool.org.uk giving the following details:

- Full name of pupil
- Pupil's Year group
- Full name of person reporting absence and relation to child
- Reason for absence

If a child is absent for more than one day, the parent should contact the school each day to provide an update on the child's condition, unless otherwise agreed by the school.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Parents who have concerns about their child's mental wellbeing can contact our school's Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Leads for further information on the support available.

Parents should also contact their GP or the NHS Helpline by phoning telephone number 111 for advice if they are concerned. In case of emergency parents should dial 999.

Pupils taken ill during the school day

If a pupil needs to be sent home due to illness, this should be by agreement with an appropriately authorised member of school staff. In such circumstances, no pupil will be allowed to leave the school site without parental confirmation.

7.4. Suspensions (Exclusions)

In this policy, the word 'suspension' is used to refer to what legislation calls an exclusion for a fixed period. Suspensions and permanent exclusions are both types of exclusion, and where this policy uses the word 'exclusion' this includes both suspensions (fixed-period exclusions) and permanent exclusions.

If the school decides to send a pupil home due to their behaviour, this will be recorded as an exclusion. The school will follow the current [DfE's statutory guidance on suspensions and permanent exclusions](#). The full behaviour and exclusions policy for our school can be found here for primary: <https://www.goresbrookschool.org.uk/primary/key-information/policies> And here for secondary: <https://www.goresbrookschool.org.uk/secondary/key-information/policies>

Any exclusion **must** be agreed by the Headteacher.

The school will notify the parent of the exclusion in writing. If the pupil is a Child in Care, the school will notify the pupil's carer, social worker and the Virtual School. In other instances, where a pupil is open to Children's Social Care for any reason, the school will also inform their allocated social worker.

No pupil will be allowed to leave the school site without parental confirmation.

8. Absent – unable to attend school because of unavoidable cause

In accordance with DfE school attendance guidance, our school will record pupils as 'Unable to attend school because of unavoidable cause' in the following circumstances (such circumstances are not recorded as absences and are not counted as possible attendances):

- Code Q: Unable to attend because of a lack of access arrangements
- Code Y1: Unable to attend due to transport normally provided not being available
- Code Y2: Unable to attend due to widespread disruption to travel
- Code Y3: Unable to attend due to part of the school premises being closed
- Code Y4: Unable to attend due to the whole school site being unexpectedly closed
- Code Y5: Unable to attend as pupil is in criminal justice detention
- Code Y6: Unable to attend in accordance with public health guidance or law
- Code Y7: Unable to attend because of any other unavoidable cause

9. Absent - unauthorised absence

Unauthorised absence is where a school is not satisfied with the reasons given for the absence or no reason for absence was provided.

Absence will be unauthorised if a pupil is absent from school without the permission of the school. Whilst parents can provide explanations for absences, it is the school's decision whether to authorise the absence or not.

Unauthorised absence includes:

- Absences which have never been properly explained
- Pupils who arrive at school too late to get a mark
- Shopping
- Birthdays
- Waiting at home for a washing machine to be mended, or a parcel to be delivered
- Day trips
- Long weekends and holidays in term time (unless very exceptional circumstances are agreed in writing, in advance by the school)
- In the case of term time leave - if a pupil is kept away from school longer than was agreed, the additional absence is unauthorised

Unauthorised absences may result in Legal Sanctions, usually Penalty Notices or Prosecutions. The unauthorised absence codes include:

- Code G – Holiday not granted by the school
- Code N – Reason for absence not yet established
- Code O – Absent in other or unknown circumstances
- Code U – Arrived in school after registration closed

10. Administrative codes

Where necessary and applicable, our school will use the defined administrative codes. These codes are not collected for statistical purposes and are:

- Code Z: Prospective pupil not on admissions register
- Code #: Planned whole school closure

11. First Day of Absence Response

For any first day absences, either the Attendance Manager or Attendance officer will contact parents to discuss the absence. They will ensure to make contact with all parents/carers who have reported a first day absence and will offer support where necessary. They will only use the contact details provided by parents/carers to make contact. All parents/carers are contacted however vulnerable students, students with persistent absentee rates and students who are in exam years will be prioritised to be contacted first.

Parents/Carer are required to provide accurate and up-to-date contact details of **at least three** people who can be contacted in the case of an emergency. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to update to school on any changes made to these details outside of the termly review of parent/carer details.

If the school is unable to contact any of the emergency numbers provided, and is concerned for the welfare of the pupil, we may undertake our own 'safe and well' checks and/or request a Welfare Check from the police.

12. Rewarding Good and Improved Attendance

Goresbrook school regularly celebrates good and improving attendance. This is carried out in a way that ensures all students are celebrated for their attendance even in instances whereby attendance is low but improving. Attendance rates are regularly reviewed on an individual and year group basis and students who have improved attendance are eligible for rewards.

To celebrate attendance the Attendance Team identifies students in each year group who have had either excellent or improved attendance in comparison to the previous week. Students are selected and given a reward for improving attendance. This is tracked by the Attendance Team to ensure that the widest range of students are celebrated over the academic year. There are also termly "big prizes" for students who have managed to achieve 100% Attendance over a specified time frame. This is carefully selected and communicated to students so that students who may not have had 100% attendance previously are still eligible to be entered into the prize draw. The SLT Attendance Lead and Attendance Manager also regularly organise Attendance Trips for students who have either excellent or improved attendance over a specified time. There are also weekly attendance celebrations in both assemblies and family dining so that positive rates of attendance are promoted and celebrated.

13. Support for Poor School Attendance (other than unauthorised term time leave)

Sometimes pupils can be reluctant to attend school. We encourage parents and pupils to be open and honest with us about the reason for the pupil's absence. If a child is reluctant to attend, it is never better to cover up their absence or for a parent to give in to pressure to let the child stay at home. This can give the impression to the child that attendance does not matter and can make things worse. As a school, we need to understand the reasons why a pupil is reluctant to attend to be able to support pupils and parents in the best way.

When we have concerns about the attendance of a pupil, we will do our best to make the parent/s aware of the concerns about their child's attendance and give them the opportunity to address this. However, if parents do not make use of the support offered and improve their child's attendance to an acceptable level, this may result in legal sanctions. Where there are no genuine reasons for the absences, parents may be asked to meet with the Attendance Manager

and SLT Attendance lead to discuss the matter. In some cases, this may result in a formal action plan being produced in the form of an Attendance Contract.

If our school refers a case of poor school attendance to the Local Authority for legal sanctions, we will show that we have warned the parent/s that they are at risk of receiving a Penalty Notice or other legal sanction. This will at least be evidenced via the sending of a Notice to Improve – attendance warning letter.

We will not usually request legal sanctions from the Local Authority in cases where poor attendance is symptomatic of complex family circumstances. In such circumstances our school will take a holistic approach to the issue and involve other agencies as necessary. The exception to this will be where parents fail to accept or engage with support offered by the school and/or other agencies or fail to implement the suggested changes. Again, when referring for legal sanctions, we will show that we have warned the parent/s that they are at risk of receiving a Penalty Notice or other legal sanction.

If our school has safeguarding concerns about a pupil who is absent, we will share information with other agencies as we deem necessary.

14. Penalty Notices and Prosecutions

Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure that their child attends school on a regular basis. It is a criminal offence under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 to fail to secure regular attendance of a registered pupil at the school. This applies to both resident and non-resident parents who may both be subject to legal sanctions if their child fails to attend school regularly. It also applies to others who may not be the parent but may have day to day care of the child.

Unauthorised absence from school can result in a number of different outcomes for parents and children. Each case is considered individually.

Under section 444 of the Education Act 1996, if a child of compulsory school age, who is a registered pupil at a school, fails to attend regularly at the school his/her parent(s) are guilty of an offence. Parents with more than one school aged child need to be aware that each child's irregular attendance is dealt with as a separate matter.

The school will refer cases of unauthorised absence that meet the threshold for a Penalty Notice to the Local Authority for legal action unless there are reasonable grounds for not doing so. The outcome of a referral to the Local Authority may be a Penalty Notice or Prosecution.

Penalty Notices are intended as a sanction for low level offences and a tool to support improved school attendance for example in circumstances associated with an unauthorised holiday taken during term time. They are an alternative to prosecution and may not be issued if prosecution is a more appropriate response to a pupil's irregular attendance.

A pupil's unauthorised absence from school could result in one of the following:

1. A Penalty Notice. The penalty is £80 per parent, per child payable within 21 days, rising to £160 per parent, per child if paid between 22 and 28 days. (Failure to pay will result in prosecution.) If a second Penalty Notice is issued within a rolling 3-year period the penalty is £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days. There will be no option to pay a lower amount.
2. Prosecution. Prosecution could lead to fines up to £2500 and /or up to 3 months imprisonment. (See DfE's statutory guidance on [School attendance parental responsibility measures](#) for more information.

Penalty Notices and prosecution proceedings are issued to each parent with responsibility for the child and are issued for each child with irregular attendance. For example, in the case of

Penalty Notices, if two siblings had irregular school attendance, and there were two parents with responsibility for the children, four Penalty Notices would be issued. Penalty Notices cannot be paid in instalments.

In addition to Penalty Notices, there is a range of other legal interventions open to schools

We will work together with local authority and make use of the full range of legal interventions rather than relying solely on fixed penalty notices or prosecution, and will work closely with the local authority to decide whether to use them in an individual case after considering the individual circumstances of a family. These are: Parenting contracts, Education supervision orders, Attendance prosecution, Parenting orders, Fixed penalty notices

15. Children Missing Education (CME)

Our school will add and delete pupils from roll in line with the law. A pupil's name can only lawfully be deleted from the admission register if a reason set out in regulation 9 of the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024. The school will make CME and Pupil Tracking referrals as appropriate. The school will seek advice from the local authority representative responsible for children missing education if unsure about any individual cases:

16. Following up Unexplained Absences

Where no contact has been made with the school, the school will contact parents by text, email, telephone or letter to try and establish the reason for a child's absence. When we establish the reason for the absence, we will mark it as authorised or unauthorised depending on the reason for the absence. If we are unable to establish the reason for absence within 1 school day, we will make the absence as unauthorised, using the **O** code. If we are concerned about a pupil's absence and are unable to contact the parent/s, we may contact the pupil's emergency contacts and/or other professionals or contacts of the family who we reasonably expect may be able to advise us of the pupil's whereabouts. For unreported Absences, we will conduct a 1st day absence home visit in order to conduct a welfare check. If we continue to struggle to make contact, we will continue with daily home visits and liaise with the appropriate agencies where concerns are identified.

17. Reporting to Parents

We report all student's attendance on a termly basis alongside including the sharing of behaviour and academic data. This gives parents the opportunity to look at their child's attendance certificate and come back with any queries.

In instances where a child's attendance drops below 90%, for whatever reason, our school will write to the parents to highlight this, unless there is a good reason not to. We will also arrange for a preventative Attendance Support Plan meeting in order to prevent levels of attendance dropping below 90%.

18. Recording Information on Attendance and Reasons for Absence

All absences are recorded on Arbor with notes that specify reasons for absence, who carried out this contact and any actions taken to support in improving attendance.

19. Policy Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by SLT Attendance Lead or more frequently if there are changes to legislation and guidance. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing body.

20. Links with other policies

This policy is linked to our Anti-Bullying Policy, Behaviour Policy, Inclusion Policy, Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy.

Guidance Documents (include but are not limited to):

Working Together to Improve School Attendance (DfE 2024)

Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions (DfE December 2015)

[Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance)
(publishing.service.gov.uk)

Education for children with health needs who cannot attend school (DfE January 2013)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school>

Mental Health issues affecting a pupil's attendance (DfE February 2023)

[Mental health issues affecting a pupil's attendance: guidance for schools - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-issues-affecting-a-pupil-s-attendance-guidance-for-schools)
(www.gov.uk)

Arranging education for children with who cannot attend school because of health needs (DfE December 2023)

[Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/arranging-education-for-children-who-cannot-attend-school-because-of-health-needs)
(publishing.service.gov.uk)

Keeping children safe in education (DfE September 2025)

[Keeping children safe in education 2025](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/parental-responsibility-measures-for-behaviour-and-schools>

School attendance parental responsibility measures (DfE January 2015)

<https://www.gov.uk/education/school-censuses-and-slasc>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion>

School census guidance and regulation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-to-school-travel-and-transport-guidance>

Home to school travel and transport guidance (DfE July 2014)

Appendix A – 5 Foundations of Effective Practice

- **Foundation 1:** *The school has a fully embedded ethos in which excellent school attendance is expected, developed and nurtured. The escalated approach to supporting attendance is built on foundations of belonging and connectedness.*
- **Foundation 2:** *The approach to improving attendance is built on clear policies, systems and processes. This ensures continuous and sustainable improvement drives attendance practice. The attendance policy is understood by all stakeholders and allows the school to set, and maintain, high expectations to improve the culture of attendance.*
- **Foundation 3:** *The school prioritises developing a team of attendance experts, with a shared vision and core purpose. The Attendance Leader delivers bespoke training to support all staff to fully understand their role in improving attendance. External partnerships support attendance improvements through a multi-disciplinary approach for identified children and families.*
- **Foundation 4:** *Data information and analysis direct resources proactively towards key demographic groups and identified individuals. The expert use of data analysis informs decision making at all levels. The attendance process ensures the Attendance Leader understands the reason for attendance concerns, these barriers can then be successfully supported and removed.*
- **Foundation 5:** *Connecting and belonging drives the school approach to supporting attendance. All staff are supported to understand 'deeper roots' regarding poor attendance concerns. The school has developed, and embedded, an effective rewards system to further drive attendance improvements and celebrate success*

Appendix B – Department for Education (DfE) Attendance & Absence Codes

Attending	
/ \	Present at the school / = morning session \ = afternoon session
L	Late arrival before the register is closed
K	Attending education provision arranged by the local authority
V	Attending an educational visit or trip
P	Participating in a sporting activity
W	Attending work experience
B	Attending any other approved educational activity
D	Dual registered at another school
Absent – Leave of absence	
C1	Leave of absence for the purpose of participating in a regulated performance or undertaking regulated employment abroad.
M	Leave of absence for the purpose of attending a medical or dental appointment
J1	Leave of absence for the purpose of attending an interview for employment or for admission to another educational institution
S	Leave of absence for the purpose of studying for a public examination
X	Non-compulsory school age pupil not required to attend school
C2	Leave of absence for a compulsory school age pupil subject to a part-time timetable
C	Leave of absence for exceptional circumstance
Absent – other authorised reasons	
T	Parent travelling for occupational purposes
R	Religious observance
I	Illness (not medical or dental appointment)
E	Suspended or permanently excluded and no alternative provision made
Absent – unable to attend school because of unavoidable causes	
Q	Unable to attend the school because of a lack of access arrangements
Y1	Unable to attend due to transport normally provided not being available
Y2	Unable to attend due to widespread disruption to travel
Y3	Unable to attend due to part of the school premises being closed
Y4	Unable to attend due to the whole school site being unexpectedly closed
Y5	Unable to attend as pupil is in criminal justice detention
Y6	Unable to attend in accordance with public health guidance or law
Y7	Unable to attend because of any other unavoidable cause
Absent – unauthorised absence	

G	Holiday not granted by the school
N	Reason for absence not yet established
O	Absent in other or unknown circumstances
U	Arrived in school after registration closed
Administrative Codes	
Z	Prospective pupil not on admission register
#	Planned whole school closure