

## **Encouraging Good Attendance at Bethany CE Junior School**

At Bethany CE Junior School, we recognise the importance of regular school attendance in ensuring that children receive the best possible education. We have a range of strategies in place to encourage and support good attendance, ensuring that every pupil feels welcomed, valued, and motivated to attend school each day.

### **Meet and Greet**

One of our key approaches is providing a meet and greet for pupils who need extra encouragement or reassurance at the start of the day. This could be a friendly face from a teacher, teaching assistant, or pastoral staff member at the school gate/front door or classroom door, helping children feel safe and ready to learn. By offering this warm welcome, we aim to reduce anxiety and create a positive mindset for the school day.

### **Breakfast Club**

To support families and encourage consistent attendance, in certain situations, we offer a free Breakfast Club. This ensures that children start their day with a nutritious meal, helping them to focus better and engage more actively in their lessons. By alleviating some of the morning pressures on parents/carers and providing a welcoming environment for pupils, our Breakfast Club aims to make the school experience more positive and accessible for everyone.

### **Class Attendance Certificates**

To further promote good attendance, we celebrate and reward pupils' efforts through attendance class certificates. These certificates are awarded to classes with the highest attendance, fostering a sense of teamwork and collective responsibility among pupils. Regular recognition of good attendance motivates children to be present each day and contributes to a positive school culture.

### **Targeted Support**

For pupils and families who are struggling with attendance, we provide targeted support to address any barriers preventing regular school attendance. This may include working closely with parents and carers, offering mentoring or emotional support for pupils, and collaborating with external agencies when necessary. By identifying and addressing challenges early, we aim to ensure that every child has the opportunity to attend school regularly and thrive academically and socially.

### **Catching Up Pupils Learning**

When pupils are absent from their learning, we know this can lead to anxiety. Therefore, when a pupil has been absent for more than 2 days, we will ensure they receive catch-up from a member of staff on their missed learning. Where a pupil is absent for more than 3 days, we will email home their core learning so they know what has been missed. This can then be followed up on arrival back at school.

**Lateness**

We will carefully track pupils who are regularly arriving late at school. We will offer support to pupils and families to best enable them to arrive to school on time. Often, these pupils are missing key learning such as phonics or maths fluency.

**Values awards**

Each week in family worship there is a presentation of a values award for a child in each class who has demonstrated Hope, Compassion or Courage, chosen by their teacher. Their parent is invited to see their child receive this award. This helps build a sense of belonging, safety and well-being in school.

**Leadership Opportunities**

Children who receive the PP are specifically chosen for leadership roles across the school (E.G School council, Spirituality leaders, sports leaders, choir)

This gives them role models, close working with a trusted adult, opportunity to grow in leadership of themselves and others, confidence, courage and hope that their future can be a good one. They grow a sense of belonging, well-being, and they motivation to attend school.

At Bethany CE Junior School, we are committed to fostering a supportive and encouraging environment where every child feels motivated to attend school daily. Through our meet and greet approach, attendance rewards, and tailored support, we strive to ensure that all pupils can fully engage with their learning and achieve their potential.