



Hemington Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Alun Randell

**"To enable, encourage and equip all children to achieve their best
through an inspiring and nurturing environment."**

Wednesday 19th March 2025

School Attendance

19 March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Hemington, we understand that good attendance is crucial to a child's success and development. We are committed to helping every child reach their full potential, and we know that regular attendance plays a key role in achieving this. That's why we are reaching out to you to highlight the importance of ensuring every school day counts.

Currently, the national average school attendance is 94.8% and was 96% prior to the pandemic, but at Hemington, our average is 91.9%. This is, in fact, the lowest attendance rate across the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership.

We fully understand that for some of our children, health concerns have contributed to lower attendance. We want to express our support and assure you that we are here to help. However, we are also mindful of the lasting impact that absence can have on a child's progress and overall educational experience. Our goal is to work together with you to ensure that children are in school whenever they are able to be. If your child is simply a bit under the weather with a cold, please do send them. Colds and minor ailments are a normal part of childhood and school life and being busy in school can be a useful distraction! A child who is clearly unwell or has a high temperature should of course rest at home.

For perspective, a child with only 90% attendance misses the equivalent of more than half a year of schooling over their primary education. The consequences of missing that time are significant and can make it more difficult for children to reach their academic potential and can affect a child's confidence - academically and socially.

To help support families and ensure we are all working together, we will be sending individual letters next week to parents of children whose attendance is currently below 96%. We ask for your continued support in ensuring that your child attends school regularly and on time.

If there are any challenges or concerns that are affecting your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to help and want to work with you to find solutions that support your child's success.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Kind regards,

Alun Randell
Headteacher