



Primary Attendance Policy

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Written by	D Longley
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Contents

1. Attendance Principles and Aims	1
2. The Law on School Attendance	1
3. Key Attendance Academy Staff	2
4. Academy Attendance Procedures.....	2
5. Absence Procedures	3
6. Safeguarding procedures - Following up absence.....	5
7. Strategies for Promoting Attendance.....	5
8. Pupils with Medical / Health conditions or Special Educational needs and disabilities	6
9. Part Time Timetables.....	6
10. Nursery Education	7
11. Monitoring Attendance	7
12. Reporting to Parents / Carers.....	8
12. Strategies for managing persistent and severe absence from the Academy.	8
13. Intervention support where attendance is a concern	9
14. Legal Sanctions.....	9
15. Children Missing in Education	10
16. Roles and Responsibilities.....	10
17. Statutory and Regulatory Framework	12
Appendix 1: attendance codes	14
Appendix 2 – Children Missing in Education Flowchart.....	17
Appendix 3 – Staged absence approach	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Attendance Principles and Aims

Regular school attendance is the key to enabling children and young people to maximise the educational opportunities available to them and become emotionally resilient, confident and competent adults who are able to realise their full potential and make a positive contribution to their community. Montagu Academy is committed to ensuring that all pupils and their families understand the importance of regular attendance.

Promoting excellent attendance is the responsibility of all staff within Delta Academy Trust. The barriers to accessing education are wide and complex, both within and beyond the academy gates, and are often specific to individual pupils and families. The foundation of securing good attendance is that school is a calm, orderly, safe, and supportive environment where all pupils want to be and are keen and ready to learn.

Montagu Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Responding to attendance concerns is a safeguarding matter and will be treated as such.

Aims

Montagu Academy aims to meet its obligations with regards to school attendance by:

- Developing and maintaining a whole academy culture that promotes the benefits of high attendance and punctuality.
- Promoting good attendance and reducing absence, including persistent absence;
- Ensuring every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled;
- Supporting parents/carers to perform their legal duty to ensure their children of compulsory school age attend regularly;
- Build strong relationships with families, listen to and understand barriers to attendance and work with families to remove them;
- Building a culture of safeguarding: ensuring all students feel safe, protected and valued;
- Having clear and swift responses to address concerns including patterns of absence;

The Law on School Attendance

The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have. It is the legal responsibility of every parent/carer to make sure their child receives that education either by attendance at school or by education otherwise than at a school.

Where parents / carers decide to have their child registered at a school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of permitted circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school. By law, all schools (except those where all pupils are boarders) are required to keep an attendance register, and all pupils must be placed on this register.

Any amendment to the attendance register will include:

The original entry

The amended entry

The reason for the amendment

The date on which the amendment was made

The name and position of the person who made the amendment

Every entry in the attendance register will be preserved for 6 years after the date on which the entry was made.

The attendance register will mark whether every pupil is:

Present

Attending an approved off-site educational activity

Absent

Unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances

See Appendix 1 for the DfE attendance codes.

Key Attendance Academy Staff

The attendance team are the first contact for any absence related issues for pupils and families.

The attendance team can and will:

- Liaise with additional pastoral staff on a daily / weekly basis about attendance for pupils.
- Support with wider issue to remove barriers to education.
- Complete welfare checks to ensure we know pupils and families are safe and well regardless of the reason for absence.
- Ensure that attendance remains a priority for parents, pupils and the academy.

Role within the Team	Name	Contact Details
SLT Link for Attendance	David Longley	Info@montaguacademy.org.uk 01709 302246
Attendance Officer	Lindsay Blackwell	Blackwellll@@montaguacademy.org.uk 01709 302246

Academy Attendance Procedures

Daily Routine

Pupils must arrive at the academy by 08:50 on each day.

Pupils attending Breakfast Club can arrive from 08:00. Breakfast Club is by prior booking only and you will receive information if/when your child joins. School staff will take the pupils to their class for the start of the day.

There are several school gates to enter school. These start to open from 08:30 and are locked ten minutes after registration starts. On an afternoon, the gates are open between approximately 15:00 and 15:10.

Attendance Register

- Class teachers are required to take an electronic register at the beginning of each morning and afternoon session using Bromcom.
- The register for the first session will be taken at 08:50am.

- Arrivals after 08:50am will be recorded as 'L'
- Arrivals after 09:30am will be recorded as 'U' – this will affect attendance percentage
- The register for the second session will be completed immediately after lunchtime for each Key Stage.

Lates & Punctuality

It is an expectation of the Academy that pupils will arrive on time and be ready to learn. Lateness and punctuality will be monitored daily.

- A pupil who arrives late, after the register has closed, will be marked as 'U,' unless another code is more appropriate due to the reason for lateness after register (such as unplanned medical).
- We may send a letter to parents/carers, by way of notification of our concerns in relation to their child's punctuality and may request a meeting to discuss the concerns in order to work together to resolve any issues.
- Persistent lateness can result in a significant amount of learning time being lost, resulting in gaps in learning and can also indicate a safeguarding concern. All class teachers must be alert to emerging patterns or concerns in relation to punctuality and inform both the Attendance Lead and Designated Safeguarding Lead if they have concerns.

In exceptional circumstances (such as severe weather), the closing of registration may be delayed at the discretion of the Head of Academy.

Absence Procedures

Unplanned Absence

It is an expectation of the academy that parents/ carers will notify the academy on the first day of an unplanned absence – for example, if their child is unable to attend due to ill health by 9am.

Parents/ carers must keep in touch every day that their child cannot return to the academy, unless the academy has agreed otherwise.

Parents/ carers can contact school in the following ways:

Telephone 01709 302246

In person at the school Office

Email info@montaguacademy.org.uk

- Absence due to illness will be authorised unless the academy has a genuine concern about the authenticity of the illness. If the authenticity of the illness is in doubt, the academy may ask parents to provide medical evidence, such as a doctor's note, prescription, appointment card or other appropriate form of evidence. We will not ask for medical evidence unnecessarily. However, as an academy we will seek medical evidence to better understand the needs of pupils and to ensure that the Academy is working alongside other statutory guidance in supporting pupils at school with medical conditions or arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs.
- Only the Head of Academy can authorise absence from the academy. Absence will not be authorised unless the reason you offer is accepted by the academy.
- Absences not reported will be followed up by the academy attendance / pastoral staff in line with safeguarding procedures.

Planned Absences

Medical or dental appointments

We encourage parents/ carers to make medical and dental appointments out of academy hours. Where this is not possible, the pupil should be out of academy for the minimum amount of time necessary. It is expected that parents/carers inform the academy of the appointment as soon as possible; failure to do this may result in an unauthorised absence.

Leave of absence during term time

By law, a Head of Academy cannot grant any leave of absence to pupils during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Exceptional Circumstances are defined by the DfE to mean very rare, unusual or unforeseeable circumstances.

- The academy considers each application for term-time absence individually, considering the specific facts, circumstances, and relevant context behind the request. A leave of absence is granted entirely at the Head of Academy's discretion.
- All parents/carers must complete a leave of absence form at least two weeks in advance and may be invited in the academy to discuss with a member of the attendance team.
- Extended leave of absence is considered to be absences that extend beyond two weeks. Parents/ carers will be invited into the academy for a meeting to discuss these requests.
- Taking leave in term time will affect pupil's education as much as any other absence and we expect parents to support the academy by not taking pupil's away in term time.
- The National Penalty Notice Framework will be followed and may be issued for unauthorised leave of absence, such as holidays.

Valid reasons for authorised absence include:

- Illness and medical/dental appointments
- Religious observance – the academy can authorise a day where the day is exclusively set apart for religious observance by the religious body to which the pupil's parents belong. If necessary, the academy will seek advice from the parents' religious body to confirm whether the day is set apart, please be advised that 1 days absence is authorised for religious observance as advised by the DfE.
- Traveller pupils travelling for occupational purposes – this covers Roma, English and Welsh Gypsies, Irish and Scottish Travellers, Showmen (fairground people) and Circus people, Bargees (occupational boat dwellers) and New Travellers. Absence may be authorised only when a Traveller family is known to be travelling for occupational purposes and has agreed this with the academy, but it is not known whether the pupil is attending educational provision

Re-integration following an absence

Where a pupil has been absent for a period of time, the academy will:

- Welcome the pupil back to the academy and value their return
- Look at lost learning with class teacher and agree interventions to support

Re-integration following Long-term absence

Where a pupil has been absent for a prolonged period, due to illness, the academy will:

- Welcome the pupil back to the academy and value their return
- Provide support for the pupil in consultation with parents/carers to enable a successful return to the academy.
- Ensure that all relevant staff are informed of the circumstances.
- Work with other agencies, where appropriate, to ensure a successful outcome.

- Consider a personalised programme of return if appropriate
- Nominate a key member of staff to monitor and review the pupil's return.

Safeguarding procedures - Following up absence

- The academy will follow up any absences to ascertain the reason, ensure proper safeguarding action is taken where necessary, identify whether the absence is approved or not and identify the correct attendance code to use.
- The academy operates a “first day call” system. This will mean that all parents/carers can expect to be contacted on the first day of any absence if the academy has not been previously informed, via My Child at School APP / telephone message.
- First day absence texts/App messages calls are made within an hour of the register closing. If a child/young person is absent and parents/carers/primary contacts are uncontactable, the 1st and 2nd emergency contacts will be used.
- If we are unable to establish the reason for absence via school comms and telephone call and by 9.30am, we will consider appropriate next steps.
- Home-visit should always be considered on the first day of absence however if this has not been conducted, then on the second consecutive day of absence a home visit should be conducted (if a reason for absence has still not been established through both the primary and emergency contacts). At least two emergency contacts should be held for each child. However, the academy will always seek to receive a minimum of 3 emergency contacts. The academy may also consult with the Police to request a ‘Safe and Well’ visit should contact not be made.
- If through daily calls or home-visits, concerns arise regarding the need for Early Help support or a possible safeguarding concern is identified, the matter should be passed to the academy's Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately (both verbally and recorded on CPOMS).
- Any unexplained absences will be followed up on a weekly basis by way of a letter home.
- If at any stage, further concerns are identified, and the attendance lead/DSL is unsure of what action to take, the Head of Academy should be contacted for consultation.
- If a pupil has a social worker, external family support worker or youth justice worker they will be contacted by the academy on day of absence to inform and to agree actions to be taken to safeguard the pupil.

Strategies for Promoting Attendance

To promote high levels of attendance and to recognise individual and collective high attendance or improvement, Montagu Academy uses a range of rewards and positive reinforcement strategies.

These include:

Certificates
 Letters / Newsletters
 Celebration assemblies
 Reinforcement through prizes
 Inclusion in prize draws
 Special awards
 Text messages home

Montagu Academy runs a breakfast club. This supports parents/ carers in ensuring good attendance and punctuality, by giving the opportunity to drop off pupils before the start of the academy day.

Pupils attending Breakfast Club can arrive from 08:00. Breakfast Club is by prior booking only and you will receive information if/when your child joins. School staff will take the pupils to their class lines for the start of the day.

Pupils with Medical / Health conditions or Special Educational needs and disabilities

Some pupils face greater barriers to attendance than their peers. These can include pupils who suffer from long term medical conditions or who have educational needs and disabilities. At Montagu Academy our ambition for good regular attendance applies to all pupils.

To support pupils with medical needs, the academy will:

- Ensure the pupil has a comprehensive health care (or similar) plan which addresses medical, educational social, emotional and mental health needs, where needed.
- Consider whether additional support from external agencies (including the Local Authority and health services) would be appropriate and work together with those services to deliver appropriate support.
- Work with Local Authorities, families and pupils to develop support approaches and strategies for attendance for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities including access to provision outlined in the pupil's education, health and care plan.
- Consider adjustments to practice and policies to help meet the needs of pupils who are struggling to attend school, as well as making formal reasonable adjustments under section 20 of the Equality Act 2010 where a pupil has a disability. Any adjustments should be agreed by, and regularly reviewed with the pupil and their parents.
- The academy will contact their Doncaster's Attendance and Pupil Welfare Service when it is clear that the pupil will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative due to health needs, to establish additional support which may be required in order for pupils to continue their education.

Part Time Timetables

All pupils, regardless of their circumstances, are entitled to a full-time education.

In very exceptional circumstances there may be a need for a temporary part-time timetable to meet a pupil's individual needs. For example, where a medical condition prevents a pupil from attending full-time education and a part-time timetable is considered as part of a re-integration package.

- A part-time timetable will not be treated as a long-term solution.
- Any part time timetable written agreement will have a time limit by which point the pupil is expected to attend full-time.
- Part time timetables will have the agreement of both the school and the parent / carer
- The pupil normally lives with, they will be supported with formal written reviews that take place at least fortnightly and will include parents/ carers and other professionals as necessary to ensure the that they are in place for the shortest time necessary.

- A part time timetable is not used to manage behaviour.
- There will be an identified senior leader with responsibility for monitoring the part time timetable
- Where the pupil has a social worker, the school will keep them informed and involved in the process.
- If the pupil has an education health and care plan, the school should discuss the part-time timetable with the local authority so that any support package that is in place can be reviewed as swiftly as possible.
- In agreeing to a part-time timetable, the academy has agreed to a pupil being absent from the academy for part of the week or day and therefore must record it as authorised absence using a C2 Code.

Nursery Education

It is vital that children develop regular attendance habits at an early age. Therefore, Montagu Academy encourages parents of nursery and reception children who are not yet of compulsory school age to send their children to every session that is available to them. Every child enrolled at Montagu Academy is expected to attend every day they are required to, on time, so that they can achieve their full potential. We monitor and manage attendance and punctuality across all year groups and expect parents to notify the school of any absence.

If a child is under five and has been an allocated place in our academy, we expect the academy and parents to follow this attendance policy.

Monitoring Attendance

Senior Leaders and members of the attendance team regularly analyse attendance data to identify pupils with good and improving attendance and to provide additional support to pupils and pupil cohorts where attendance is causing a concern.

Daily Monitoring

The attendance team checks registers and contacts any family that has not informed school of their child's absence and follows set procedures.

Weekly Monitoring

- Whole school attendance is monitored and analysed on a weekly basis to identify attendance patterns and trends in order to provide intervention and support in a targeted way for individual pupils, families, cohorts and groups (including their punctuality) This data is analysed weekly by the attendance lead and a member of SLT.
- Meetings are used to monitor individual pupil attendance and identify pupils who need support and identify staff and targeted actions for those cases.
- Individual pupil attendance is monitored to check on:
 - Improvement in attendance.
 - Patterns of non-attendance.
 - Number of absences.
 - Vulnerable pupils.
 - Pupils with low attendance.

Termly Monitoring

- The impact of school wide attendance strategies is monitored half termly as a minimum, by the SLT. This analysis is then used to inform future strategies linked to the Academy Improvement Plan .
- Attendance data, patterns and trends are reported to the Academy Advisory Board and to the Delta Academies Trust executive leadership team.

Reporting to Parents / Carers

To support parents / carers in meeting their legal requirements and to maximise individual pupil attendance, Montagu Academy seeks to keep parents informed of their child’s attendance and to actively involve parents with any attendance issues.

Methods include: Texts and e mails to celebrate good and improving attendance

- Active involvement by teaching staff
- Discussion at Parents’ Meetings/Evenings.
- Attendance is reported on annual reports
- Absence texts
- Absence letters asking for reasons for unexplained/unaccounted absences
- Parent letters where attendance is of concern
- Home visits including posting slip where there is no answer at the home and follow up calls and e mails for explanation – reminding parents of responsibilities where child is not in school and out in the community
- Parent meetings
- All parents / carers are encouraged to download the My Child at School App. This enables parents to track their child's attendance daily. The platform also has functionality for parents to report a child's absence and the reason for absence.

12. Strategies for managing persistent and severe absence from the Academy.

At Montagu Academy is committed to ensuring all children and families understand and are aware of the importance of attendance whilst in role at the Academy.

Every minute in the Academy counts and days missed in the Academy have an impact on attainment for children. If your child is **persistently absent** it means their attendance is **below 90%**. If your child is **severely absent** it means their attendance is **below 50%**.

The Academy has a tiered approach to challenging absence and promoting good attendance please see appendix 3 for details of the Academies approach.

How many days off will make your child persistently absent?	
Half Term 1	3 ½ days off school from September until October half-term holiday will make your child persistently absent.
Half Term 1-2	7 days off school from September until the Christmas holiday will make your child persistently absent.
Half Term 1-3	10 days of absence from September until February half-term will make your child persistently absent.
Half Term 1-4	12 ½ days of absence from September until the Easter holidays will make your child persistently absent.
Half Term 1-5	15 ½ days of absence from September until May half-term will make your

	child persistently absent.
Half Term 1-6	19 days of absence for the full academic year (September to end of summer term in July) will make your child persistently absent.

Intervention support where attendance is a concern

- Montagu Academy uses a range of positive strategies and interventions to ensure the highest levels of attendance. However, when normal academy procedures do not result in good attendance, a range of further measures, including legal action, must be considered.
- Where attendance concerns have been identified or pupils are at risk of becoming Persistent Absentees the attendance team will contact any parent whose child's attendance is of concern, particularly where reasons for absence are not clear or are unauthorised.
- Parents / carers will be invited into the academy to meet the attendance team to discuss any problems with getting pupils to school -whether early help or support is needed to improve attendance and whether any multi agency support is needed.
- Pupils with medical or additional needs may need to be discussed further to make sure that the correct support is in place.
- If attendance does not improve then the academy will formalise support through a signed attendance contract. This will be written with the attendance lead and parent / carer and will be given a period of time for attendance to improve.
- If attendance does not improve during this period of time, despite help being offered the academy will escalate to the Local Authority who can decide to take further action against any parent/carer, including legal action which may result in fines or a summons to Magistrates' Court.

(See appendix 3 for escalation procedures)

Legal Sanctions

Following the National Framework for penalty notices, the local authority can fine parents for the unauthorised absence of their child from academy, where the child is of compulsory academy age.

Penalty notices will be issued by the local authority for each pupil absent from the Academy. For Example: If 3 siblings are absent from the Academy, this would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

Penalty notices can be issued for the following reasons:

- **5 consecutive days of term time leave.** Penalty notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days.
- **10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.** Penalty notices will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period. *Please note that there are 2 sessions with an Academy day. Therefore, pupils who are persistently late after registration has closed will be considered for a penalty notice.
- Where an excluded pupil is found in a public place during academy hours without a justifiable reason

First offence	The first time a penalty notice is issued a for term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be £160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28days issued to and to be paid to the local authority. The fine will be reduced by the local authority to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.
Second offence (within 3 years)	The second time a penalty notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be £160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28days issued to and to be paid to the local authority.
Third offence and any further offences(within 3 years)	The third time a penalty notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance a penalty notice will not be issued. Instead the case will be presented at the Magistrate’s court. A Magistrates fine can be up to £2500 per parent per child. Cases found to be guilty in Magistrates court can show on a future DBS certificate due to failure to safeguard a child’s education.

Montagu Academy follows the local authority’s code of conduct for issuing penalty notices
Appendix 4

Children Missing in Education

- The academy will always follow up with parents/carers when pupils are not at school. This means we need to have a least two up to date contacts for parents/carers/emergency contacts. Parents should remember to update the academy as soon as possible if the numbers change.
- All staff are informed of the Children Missing in Education Policy. This procedure is to be used for searching for, and if necessary, reporting, any pupil missing from the academy.
- The academy recognises that a child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect, and will follow guidance from Annex B, ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ 2024 and ‘Children Missing Education’ 2016 to promote their safety and wellbeing. The procedures in this policy will be followed when dealing with children who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions, to help to identify the risk of abuse and neglect and to help prevent the risk of them going missing in the future.
- The academy shall inform the applicable Local Authority of any pupil who fails to attend the academy regularly, or has been absent without the academy’s permission for a continuous period of 10 school days or more, at such intervals as are agreed between the academy and the Local Authority (or in default of such agreement, at intervals determined by the Secretary of State). *(Please refer to Appendix 2 of this policy and Appendix 4 of the Astrea Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy)*

Roles and Responsibilities

The Trust

- Recognise and ensure that attendance is a priority across the trust for all staff and academies embedded with policy and ethos.
- Ensure that school leaders fulfil expectations and their statutory duties in line with guidance.
- Review trust wide attendance data, discuss and challenge trends and ensure that adequate provision and support is in place to support school leaders to improve efforts for individual pupils and cohorts.
- Ensure regular training on attendance is available for academy staff.

- Ensure that effective practice is shared across Academies to drive attendance improvement.
- Understand that absence is a symptom and improving attendance for pupils is underpinned through school improvement and focus on areas such as; raising attainment, behaviour, effective responses to bullying, SEND, wellbeing and safeguarding.

The Head of Academy

- The Head of Academy is responsible for ensuring this policy is implemented consistently across the academy, and for monitoring school-level absence data, reporting it to the Trust.
- The Head of Academy will oversee, direct and co-ordinate the academy's work in promoting regular and improved attendance and will ensure the Attendance Policy is consistently applied.
- The Head of Academy will develop and maintain a whole school culture that promotes the benefit of good attendance and maintains this ambition for all pupils.
- The Head of Academy supports staff in monitoring the attendance of individual pupils, cohorts and vulnerable groups.
- The Head of Academy will ensure that there is a strategy to improve attendance and monitor and evaluate progress towards these targets.
- The Head of Academy will ensure that there is a dedicated senior leader in the academy with responsibility for championing and improving attendance.
- The Head of Academy will ensure that strategies are in place to promote attendance and implement the policy throughout the academy.
- The Head of Academy will determine (in collaboration with relevant senior staff) whether to authorise any proposed absences requested, or absences which have taken place for which no request was made
- The Head of Academy will notify parents / carers as appropriate if a pupil fails to attend regularly
- The Head of Academy will liaise (in collaboration with relevant staff) with the appropriate multi-agencies (including the Local Authority's agencies) where necessary in order to improve attendance or where support is not working follow the Local Authorities legal intervention procedures.

The Attendance lead will:

- Monitor attendance data at academy and individual pupil level on a daily basis
- Input / check daily attendance figures and follow robustly the daily procedures for following up attendance
- Ensure admission and attendance registers are accurately completed
- Ensure that unaccounted-for absences are followed up appropriately
- Work with staff, identified pupils and families at risk of poor attendance to understand and address reasons for absence, including any in school barriers to attendance.
- Arrange calls and meetings with parents to discuss attendance concerns
- Inform parents/ carers of pupils if attendance is a concern
- Hold informal / formal meetings with parents/ carers where attendance is not improving.
- Monitor the attendance tracker on a weekly basis and input any actions taken
- Contact parents over pupil absence patterns where appropriate
- Produce attendance data / statistics for the Head of Academy
- Signpost and support access to multi agency services where attendance is a concern
- Work with Doncaster Education Welfare Officers to tackle persistent absence
- Work with pupils / parents on attendance plans, strategies and interventions to improve attendance.

- Act as lead practitioner in order to support families where school is best placed lead service
- Take an active part in multi-agency efforts with the Local Authority and other agencies as required.
- Contribute to the evaluation of academy strategies and interventions

Office / Admin Staff

- Take calls from parents / carers about absence and record it on Bromcom in a timely manner.
- Retrieve messages from the App and record on Bromcom in a timely manner.
- Inform attendance leads for reasons of pupil absence
- Follow first day absence procedures as outlined in the policy
- Report concerns regarding attendance and safeguarding to SLT/ Designated Safeguarding lead
- Form positive relationships with pupils and parents/ carers

Class Teachers

- Record attendance daily in Bromcom, using the correct codes, and submit this information in a timely manner.
- Reward and promote attendance and maintain a positive culture towards attendance
- Form positive relationships with pupils and parents/ carers
- Hold regular conversations with pupils to promote attendance and identify any barriers to attendance
- Raise any concerns regarding absence and or punctuality with the attendance lead
- Have initial conversations with parents/pupils regarding attendance concerns
- Direct parents / carers to the school office / attendance lead to report absences
- Work with attendance / pastoral staff on interventions / adaptations for individual pupils to improve attendance.
- Liaise with attendance staff regarding information that may affect a pupil's attendance and where the authenticity of an illness/ absence is in doubt.

Parents / carers are required to:

- Ensure their child attends every day the academy is open unless they are too ill to do so or have an authorised absence
- To not arrange leave of absence during term time
- To immediately inform the academy if their child is unable to attend by 9am, including the reason for absence
- Continue to liaise with the academy on each day of absence unless agreed otherwise by the academy
- Wherever possible make medical appointments outside of school hours
- Ask the academy for support if their child is experiencing difficulties
- Attend and meet with academy staff with regards to attendance
- Inform the academy of any change in circumstance that may impact on their child's attendance.
- Ensure that all contact numbers held by the academy are up to date.
- Form a positive relationship with academy staff, recognising the importance of good attendance.

Statutory and Regulatory Framework

This policy meets the requirements of the [school attendance guidance](#) from the Department for Education (DfE), and refers to the DfE's statutory guidance on [school attendance parental responsibility measures](#). These documents are drawn from the following legislation setting out the legal powers and duties that govern school attendance:

[Keeping children safe in education 2024 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

[The Education \(Independent School Standards\) \(England\) Regulations 2014](#)

[Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023](#)

[School attendance: Working together to Improve School Attendance](#)

[School attendance parental responsibility measures Statutory guidance for local authorities, school leaders, school staff, governing bodies and the police January 2015 \(update May 2020\)](#)

[Children Missing Education 2016](#)

[The Education Act 1996](#)

[The Education Act 2002](#)

[The Education and Inspections Act 2006](#)

[The Education \(Penalty Notices\) \(England\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#)

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

Associated Policies

This policy should not be seen in isolation but is a strand that underpins all other policies related to the well-being of children including safeguarding, behaviour, anti-bullying and support for children with medical needs.

This Policy should be read alongside the Academy's:

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Inclusion Policy

Care, Support, Guidance and Care Policy

Academy Behaviour Policy

Missing Pupils Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy

Policy Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Academy and adapted by the Head of Academy. At every review, the policy will be shared with the AAB.

Authorised by	David Longley
Date	19th September 2024

Effective date of the policy	2 nd September 2024
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Appendix 1: attendance codes

The following codes are taken from the DfE's guidance on school attendance.

Code	Definition	Scenario
/	Present (am)	Pupil is present at morning registration
\	Present (pm)	Pupil is present at afternoon registration
L	Late arrival	Pupil arrives late before register has closed
K	Off-site educational activity	Pupil is at a supervised off-site educational activity arranged for by the local authority
B	Off-site educational activity	Pupil is at a supervised off-site educational activity approved by the academy
D	Dual registered	Pupil is attending a session at another setting where they are also registered
P	Sporting activity	Pupil is participating in a supervised sporting activity approved by the academy
V	Educational trip or visit	Pupil is on an educational visit/trip organised, or approved, by the academy
W	Work experience	Pupil is on a work experience placement

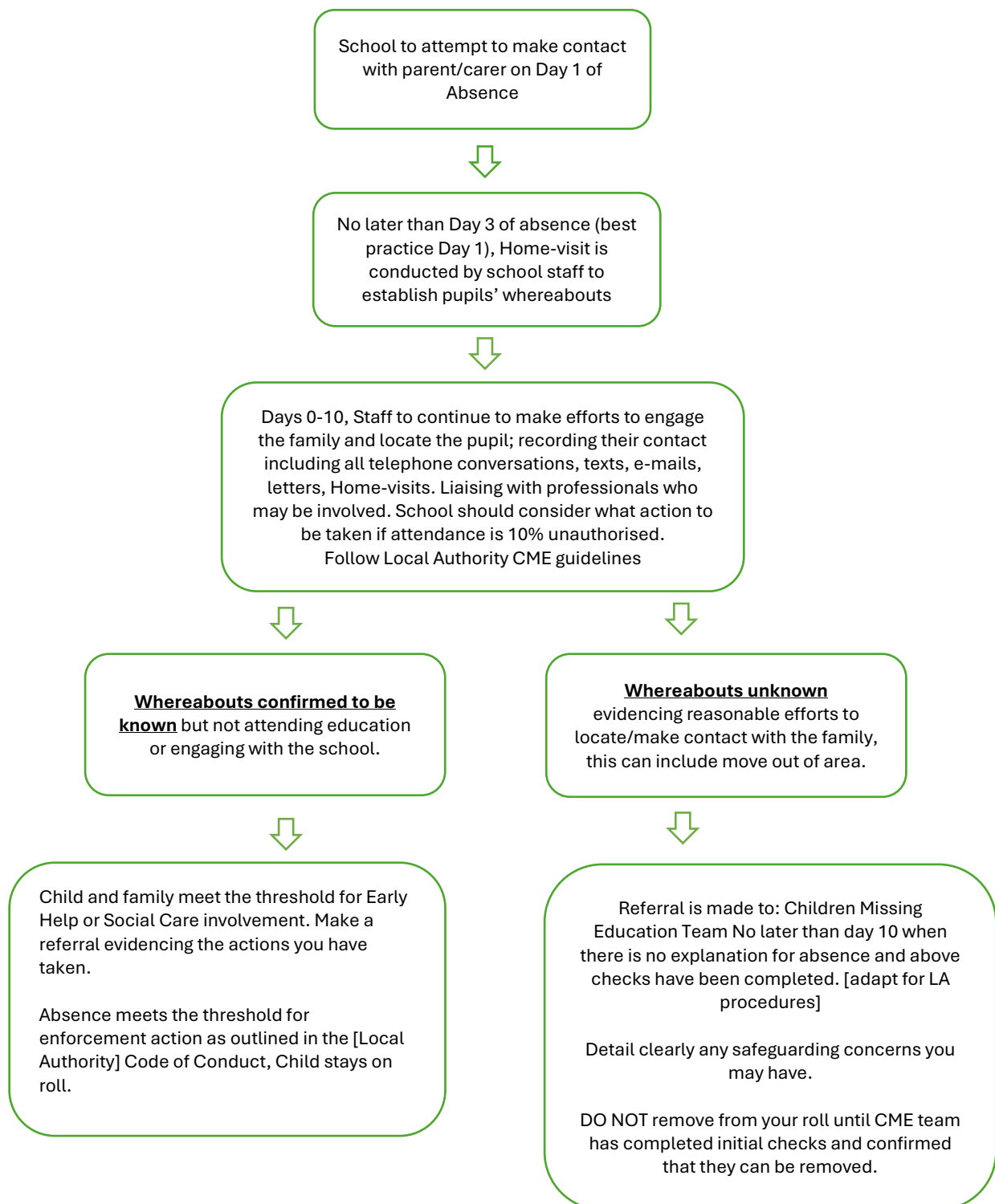
Authorised absence		
C	Authorised leave of absence	Pupil has been granted a leave of absence due to exceptional circumstances
C1	Authorised leave of absence for the purpose of participating in a regulated performance OR undertaking regulated employment abroad.	Pupil has been granted a leave of absence where a license has been issued by the local authority for where a BOPA has been issued by the local authority for activities such as: theatre or television, such as acting in films and commercials, paid or professional sport and/or modelling.
C2	Authorised absence as part of a planned part-time timetable	Where a pupil is accessing a part time timetable sitting alongside the present mark in line with the planned timings of the day for that individual.

E	Excluded / Suspended	Pupil has been suspended/ excluded but no alternative provision has been made
I	Illness	Academy has been notified that a pupil will be absent due to illness (not medical or dental appointment)
J1	Attending an interview for another educational establishment or employment.	Attending a job interview or a meeting at another Academy / College for reasons such as in year transfer.
M	Medical/dental appointment	Pupil is at a medical or dental appointment
R	Religious observance	Pupil is taking part in a day of religious observance
S	Study leave	Year 11 pupil is on study leave during their public examinations
T	Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller absence	Pupil from a Traveller community is travelling, as agreed with the academy
Unauthorised absence		
G	Unauthorised holiday	Pupil is on a holiday that was not approved by the academy
N	Reason not provided	Pupil is absent for an unknown reason (this code should be amended when the reason emerges, or replaced with code O if no reason for absence has been provided within 5 school days)
O	Unauthorised absence	No reason for absence established or the academy is not satisfied that the reason is an authorised absence
U	Arrival after registration	Pupil arrived at academy after the register closed

Administration Codes		
Q	Unable to attend due to lack of access arrangements	Pupil is unable to attend as access arrangements are not in place such as; transport and aides for pupils with disabilities.
X	Not required to be in academy	Pupil of non-compulsory academy age is not required to attend
Y1	Unable to attend due to transport normally	If a pupil is not within walking distance (3miles) and transport too / from the academy is not available as it normally would be.

	provided not being available	
Y2	Unable to attend due to widespread travel disruption	Caused by local, national or international emergency.
Y3	Unable to attend due to part of the Academy premises being closed.	If the Academy cannot safely accommodate all year groups.
Y4	Unable to attend due to the whole site being unexpectedly closed.	Adverse weather such as flooding or snow.
Y5	Unable to attend due to criminal justice detention.	If the pupil is unable to attend due to being in police detention, remanded in youth custody or has been detained.
Y6	Unable to attend in accordance with public health guidance or law	For instances where guidance is issued to stop the transmission or instances of infection or disease.
Y7	Unable to attend because of any other avoidable cause	Where an emergency has prevented the pupil (not the parent) from attending the Academy. Such as; completing community service.
Z	Pupil not on admission register	Register set up but pupil has not yet joined the academy
#	Planned academy closure	Whole or partial academy closure due to half-term/bank holiday/INSET day

Appendix 2 – Children Missing in Education Flowchart



ATTENDANCE FLOW CHART

