

School opens at 8:35am and closes at 3:15pm

Running Late?

Punctuality at school has a huge impact on your child's learning. Coming into the classroom after everyone else has settled down to work can be embarrassing and unsettling. They also miss the time when the lesson plan is set out for the class.



Obviously there are times when lateness is unavoidable - a puncture on the way to school. But if you are running more than 15 minutes late for school, please call the school office so that we are able to let the class teacher know to expect your child.

If your child is late after registration more than 10 times in a 12 week rolling period, we can send a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Reporting absences

If your child is absent from school it is your responsibility to inform us of a reason for absence by 9.00am on each day. If we do not hear from you, we will send a text message to enquire as to the whereabouts of your child and the reason for the absence. If we have not received a response by 10:30 am, a home visit will be conducted.



Should you need to discuss your child's absence then please phone the number below.

Attendance Line: 01706 642742 option 1. An answering machine is also used on this line.

Appointments



If your child has a medical appointment before the Morning Register or Afternoon Register and is absent for their mark, this will be recorded as a (M) code. This code means your child is absent from school and therefore does affect their attendance percentage. Where possible we ask that you make any appointments after school and provide medical evidence of any appointment attended.

Holidays during term time

Please remember - parents and carers have no legal right to take their child out of school during term time for any form of holiday. This includes weddings, visiting sick relatives, and short breaks. This is Unauthorised Term-Time Leave and we will submit Fixed Penalty Notices where applicable.



You must, by law, inform us if you intend to take your child out of school during term time, or else risk being reported to both the Education Welfare Team and the Children Missing Education Department.

Facts and figures

- There are 190 Teaching Days in a school year.
- There are 175 non-Teaching Days in a school year.
- 10 days of absence reduces a child's attendance level to 95%.
- 29 days of absence reduces a child's attendance level to 85%.
- 47 days of absence reduces a child's attendance level to 75%.
- Children with over 90% attendance are more likely to achieve five or more A-C grades at GCSE level.
- Children with less than 85% attendance are unlikely to achieve any A-C grades at GCSE level.

Legislation about unauthorised absence from school

In August 2014, the government made changes to how local councils should address unauthorised absences from school, mainly in the area of issuing fines to parents whose children are out of school during term time.

Section 23 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 empowers Headteachers to issue Penalty Notices in cases of unauthorised absences from school. The issuing of a Penalty Notice is considered appropriate in the following circumstances:

- Overt truancy (including pupils caught on truancy sweeps)
- Parentally-condoned absences
- Unauthorised holidays in term-time
- Persistent late arrival at school (after the register has closed)

What this means for parents of children at Moorhouse Academy

- If your child is persistently late after the register has closed for 20 sessions (10 days) within a 12 week rolling period, we will issue a Penalty Notice to each parent of the pupil.
- If your child is absent for a minimum of 20 sessions (10 school days) during a term, we will issue a Penalty Notice to each parent of the pupil.
- If your child is absent for a minimum of 10 sessions (5 school days) for an absence related to "leave" (holidays) during term time, we will issue a Penalty Notice to each parent of the pupil.