



Nurture-Believe-Inspire-Achieve



Rationale

At Danson there is an expectation of high academic achievement, we encourage creativity and cater to a personalised approach to learning. We are committed to ensuring our young people are well prepared for the next stage of their education when they leave us. This is why we are wholly committed to maintaining high levels of attendance where there is no persistent absence.

Attendance Mission Statement to Parents

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 to make sure their child receives that education by attendance at school. Where parents decide to have their child registered at 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 allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school. This is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. Those pupils at KS2, who did not meet the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7%, compared to 3.5% among those meeting the expected standard.

Danson Primary School is committed to successfully identifying the root causes of absence and remove those barriers to attendance, at home and in school working closely with families to achieve this.

Process

EXPECT

We expect 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

We rigorously use attendance data to identify patterns of poor attendance (at individual and cohort level) as soon as possible so we can work together to resolve them before they become entrenched.

LISTEN AND UNDERSTAND

When a pattern is spotted, we discuss this with parents and carers to understand barriers to attendance and agree how we can work together to resolve them.

FACILITATE SUPPORT

We have in school incentives to support pupil's to come into school each day, build resilience for learning, remove barriers in school and help families 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, depending on the circumstances we may include formalising support through a parenting contract or education supervision order.

ENFORCE

Where all other avenues have been exhausted and support is not working or not being engaged with, we may enforce attendance through statutory intervention or prosecution to protect the pupil's right to an education.

Attendance Team

Mrs B.Staggs Attendance Admin Officer

Mrs A. Allen Co-Head Teacher,

Mrs L. Casey Co-Head Teacher,

Miss E. Bell Family Liaison Officer/DSL.

Mrs S. Cooper Bexley LA Education Welfare Officer