

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
12 January 2024

Dear parents and families,

Consistent attendance and punctuality play a pivotal role in a child's educational success. Regular attendance ensures that students can fully engage in the learning process, build a strong foundation of knowledge and develop crucial social skills. Additionally, arriving on time cultivates a sense of responsibility and discipline, essential qualities that will benefit our students throughout their lives.

Many of you bring your children to school on time every day and as a result, they have excellent attendance. Attendance and punctuality are important disciplines that help to structure our daily lives and must be taught to the children. Schools have a duty to prepare pupils for life in the 21st century as fully formed citizens and part of this journey is to teach them about the importance of these two disciplines.

Your active involvement in ensuring regular school attendance and punctuality is instrumental in creating a positive and effective educational experience.

The Government line on attendance is very clear:

'Central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential is an assumption so widely understood that it is insufficiently stated – pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school.'

To comply with the government regulation every pupil must have an attendance of 96%. When a child's absence falls below this figure it has a dramatic impact on their learning. The figures below state very clearly the affect absence has on your child's learning.

95%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

**ATTENDANCE
MATTERS**

**WHAT DO YOUR
ATTENDANCE
FIGURES
ACTUALLY MEAN?**

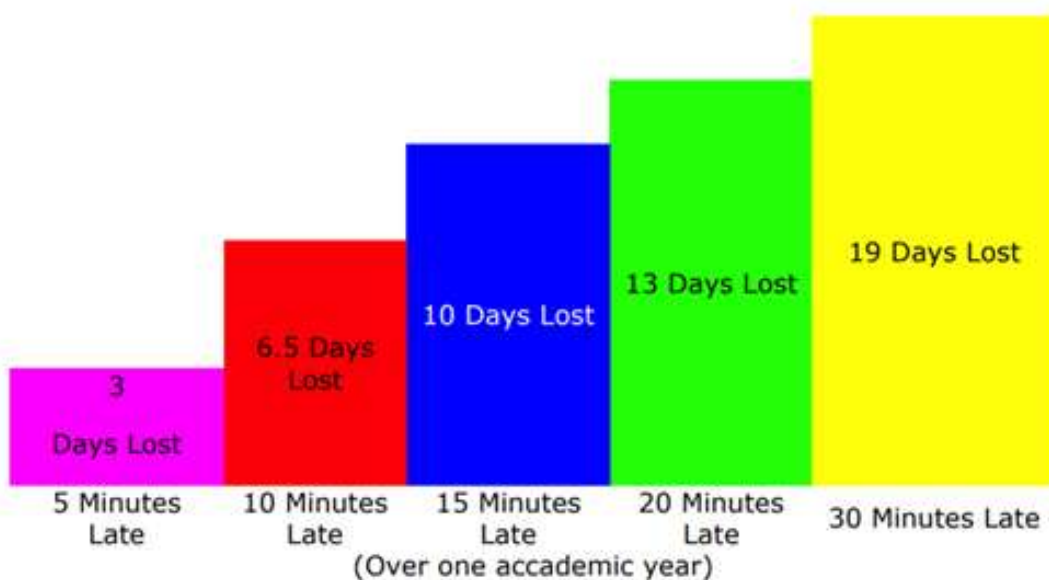
BE SMART BE THERE!

Percentages based on 190 academic days

Punctuality is another area our school has to address and improve in order to drive up standards. Many of you have excellent punctuality habits and bring your child to school on time every day but we still have a number of children who arrive to school late each day.

Every Minute Counts

If you arrive late to school everyday your learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school everyday over a school year adds up to lost learning time.



As a school, we understand that mornings can be very stressful and challenging for a family. If you do experience difficulties we ask that you inform the school so that we can give you as much support as possible. One way we help families in the mornings is for them to attend Breakfast Club. Do consider this as an option if you feel it will help.

Remember, school starts at 8:45; that is the time children should be seated ready for the lesson. The school gates open at 8:30 and the school doors open at 8:40.

Teachers will take the register at 9:50 and any child not present will be marked as late.

Punctuality is not just a habit, it is a lifestyle.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Gonzalez

Stars of the Week



Reception – Gabriella for trying hard with creative activities.
Year 1 – Christel for super effort in Phonics.
Year 2 – Damola for giving good answers in class.
Year 3 – Toby for working extremely hard.
Year 4 – Violet for working hard on times tables.
Year 5 – Anna for excellent work in maths.
Year 6 – Corben for making a determined effort to improve his writing.

School Value Awards

Reception – Daniella for showing compassion to her peers.
Year 1 – Zeki for showing resilience in number formations.
Year 2 – Eniola for showing kindness to others.
Year 3 – Juliet for showing love and compassion to others.
Year 4 – Neidas for aspiring to increase his range of vocabulary.
Year 5 – Michael for showing compassion and being a good friend.
Year 6 – Leyla for showing resilience.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 15 January	Deadline for applications for admission into Reception Sep 24
Wednesday 17 January	Year 6 to Mass <i>(leave school at 09:00)</i>
Wednesday 17 January	Year 3 to library <i>(leave school at 13:40)</i>
Wednesday 24 January	Year 5 to Mass <i>(leave school at 09:00)</i>
Wednesday 24 January	Year 4 to library <i>(leave school at 13:40)</i>
Wednesday 31 January	Year 4 to Mass <i>(leave school at 09:00)</i>
Wednesday 31 January	Year 5 to library <i>(leave school at 13:40)</i>
Wednesday 7 February	Year 3 to Mass <i>(leave school at 09:00)</i>
Monday 12 to Friday 16 February	Spring Half Term Break
Tuesday 23 March	Purple Day <i>(Non-uniform day in support of Epilepsy Action)</i>
Thursday 28 March	Last day of Spring Term

When visiting the school for liturgy assemblies, nativities, etc. please enter by the door on the side of the building, near the school hall.

This Week's Attendance

8-12 January 2024	
Reception	83.6%
Year 1	96.3%
Year 2	94.5%
Year 3	95.3%
Year 4	96.5%
Year 5	93.5%
Year 6	99.4%
Whole school	94.3%













Applications for Admission

Please remember that if you have a child born between **1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020**, the deadline for submitting your application to start primary education in September 2024, is **15 January 2024**.

Catholic Social Teaching

This half term we will be teaching our children about Catholic Social Teaching as part of their R.E. lessons.

Catholic Social Teaching is a set of principles that guide the Catholic Church's approach to social issues. It is based on the belief that all people are created in the image of God and therefore have inherent dignity and worth.

Catholic Social Teaching 		
The Principles		
 Everyone is special Human Dignity	 Thinking of everyone The Common Good	 Taking part Participation
 Everyone should have a say Subsidiarity	 Caring for God's gifts Stewardship	 Showing we care Solidarity
 Putting people most in need first Preferential Option for the Poor	 Sharing fairly Distributive Justice	 Being peacemakers Promoting peace