



Dear Parents/ Carers,

RE: School Attendance from September 2021

As the Headteachers of Ashton West End and Holy Trinity, your children's education and welfare is of paramount importance to us. We strongly believe that regular attendance throughout the year is essential for their success and fulfilment. Children have lost, on average, four months of learning due to the school closures, meaning that future good attendance has never been so important.

We know that this has been a difficult year with many of you being unable to visit family and friends. You will be aware that because of travel restrictions, some families have been away for more than 20 school days. In line with National guidance, these children have not been removed from the school roll. We must stress, however, that from September 2021, any absence above 20 days at either school will likely result in your child being removed from roll.

Both schools have clear plans in place to ensure that children make up for the time they have missed this year. We can only do this if your child attends regularly and does not have any extended absence.

As you will know, schools are not able to authorise holidays in term time and are able to apply for penalty notices and/or prosecutions through the local authority. This means that when a pupil has unauthorised absence of 10 sessions (5 days) or more, in any term (where no acceptable reason has been given for the absence) parents or carers may receive a Penalty Notice. The same applies for children who are persistently late for school after the close of registration. Penalty notices are currently £60 per parent per pupil if paid within 21 days rising to £120 if paid within 28 days. Failure to pay a penalty notice within 28 days may result in prosecution.

The Headteachers and Governors of both schools are committed to ensuring that, from September 2021, these rules are closely followed.

We hope we can work together as one community to ensure our children attend school regularly and achieve their best.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Miss K Pizuti

Principal

Ashton West End Primary

Mr S Brereton

Headteacher

Holy Trinity C of E Primary School