

SAINT NORBERT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Tollgate
Spalding
Lincolnshire
PE11 1NJ

Telephone: 01775 722889

Fax: 01775 762465

Email: enquiries@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L. Yarnell



Dear Parents,

19th November 2015

The Importance of good Attendance

One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: going to school every day. In fact, research has shown that your child's attendance record may be the biggest factor influencing their academic success.

Benefits of daily attendance:

By attending school regularly, your child is more likely to keep up with the daily lessons and learning themes and complete pieces of work fully, and therefore acquire new skills.

Achievement: children who attend school regularly are more likely to succeed in reading, writing and maths assessments.

Opportunity: For older children, being in school every day gives them a chance to learn more about life beyond school and scholarship opportunities, and to take the important tests they need to build a successful academic record.

Exposure to the English language: Regular school attendance can also help children who are learning English by giving them the chance to master the skills and information they need more quickly and accurately.

Being part of the school community: Just by being present at school, your child is learning how to be a good citizen by participating in the school community, learning valuable social skills, and developing a broader world view. **The importance of education:** Your commitment to school attendance will also send a message to your child that education is a priority for your family, going to school every day is a critical part of educational success, and that it's important to take your responsibilities seriously including going to school.

What you can do:

As a parent or guardian, it is possible to plan ahead in order to limit your child's absences, make school attendance a priority, and help your child from falling behind. You can do this in the following ways:

Help your child get to school on time every day. Babysitting, problems with a car or late bus, and the weather are not permissible reasons to miss school. Frequently coming to school late may also be noted on your child's permanent record, and will make it difficult for your child to stay caught up with the first lessons of each morning. Teach your child how to set and use an alarm clock.

Follow our school's guidelines and attendance policy or parent guide, and report excused absences immediately. At the beginning of the school year, review the school's rules and make sure you understand whom you need to call if your child is going to be absent.

Check homework. Check each night to see that your child understands and completes home learning tasks. Take an active role. Stay involved with your child's daily experiences at school by asking how the school day went, and then listening carefully to what your child shares with you both the successes and struggles.



SAINT NORBERT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Tollgate
Spalding
Lincolnshire
PE11 1NJ

Telephone: 01775 722889

Fax: 01775 762465

Email: enquiries@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L. Yarnell

Locate potential sources of anxiety. If your child frequently appears upset or reluctant to go to school and cannot tell you why, schedule an appointment with his or her teacher to talk about possible sources of the anxiety.

Keep updated on school events and announcements. Read the school documents that your child brings home and take note of important announcements and dates.

Try to limit the amount of time that your child misses school due to medical appointments or illness. If possible, avoid scheduling doctor's appointments during the school day. Allow your child to stay home only in the case of contagious or severe illnesses.

Children who miss days, weeks, or months of school at a time will have a difficult time covering all aspects of the curriculum and catching up to their peers.

Schedule family events with your child's school schedule in mind. Plan holiday celebrations or family trips during weekends or school holidays. In the case of family emergencies or exceptional circumstances talk to your child's teacher as far in advance as possible and write to the Headteacher to see if the absence can be authorised.

Plan ahead. Encourage your child to prepare for the next school day by laying out clothes the night before and helping to prepare lunches.

Promote good health. Make sure that your child eats a balanced diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables, and has opportunities to exercise every day through a sports team or playtime outside.

Create a restful environment.

Finally, make sure that your child can relax before bedtime by doing something quiet like reading rather than do something stimulating, like watching television. Ensure that your child gets enough quality sleep ideal amounts range from 8 to 12 hours. Getting enough sleep will help them get up on time, be refreshed in the morning, and feel ready for a full day of learning ahead!

By making your child's school attendance a priority, you will be taking an important step in supporting your child's school success, and setting a good example. Remember every day counts!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J. Withers
Attendance Officer



SAINT NORBERT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Tollgate
Spalding
Lincolnshire
PE11 1NJ

Telephone: 01775 722889

Fax: 01775 762465

Email: enquiries@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L. Yarnell

