

Library Road, Parkstone, Poole, BH12 2BG

Telephone: (01202) 743918

www.heatherlands.poole.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr J Churchill BA (Hons), M.A, PGCE, NPQH

Deputy Head: Mrs K Lloyd-Christie BA (Hons), QTS, NPQH

'At Heatherlands we believe every child deserves the best start in life'

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to share an important update about school attendance, with a particular focus on **Fridays**.

When we review attendance across the school, which is a statutory obligation, Fridays consistently have the **lowest attendance**. We understand that families are busy and that appointments or extended weekends can sometimes feel easier to arrange at the end of the week. However, we want to highlight why **being in school on Fridays is just as important as any other day**.

Learning on Fridays

Fridays are **full learning days**, not quiet or “light” days. Key learning takes place across all year groups, including:

- Consolidating and applying learning from earlier in the week
- Practical activities, investigations and group work
- Completing lessons and projects that carry learning into the following week

Missing Fridays regularly can mean children miss important learning that is difficult to fully catch up on.

Celebrations, rewards and positive behaviour

Fridays are also when we celebrate our pupils’ efforts and achievements. These include:

- **Celebrations of good behaviour**
- **Rewards and Golden Time**
- **Star of the Week certificates**
- **Assemblies and opportunities for children to be recognised and feel proud of their achievements**

Children who are absent on Fridays often miss out on these special moments, which play a key role in building confidence, motivation and a positive attitude to school.



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Working together

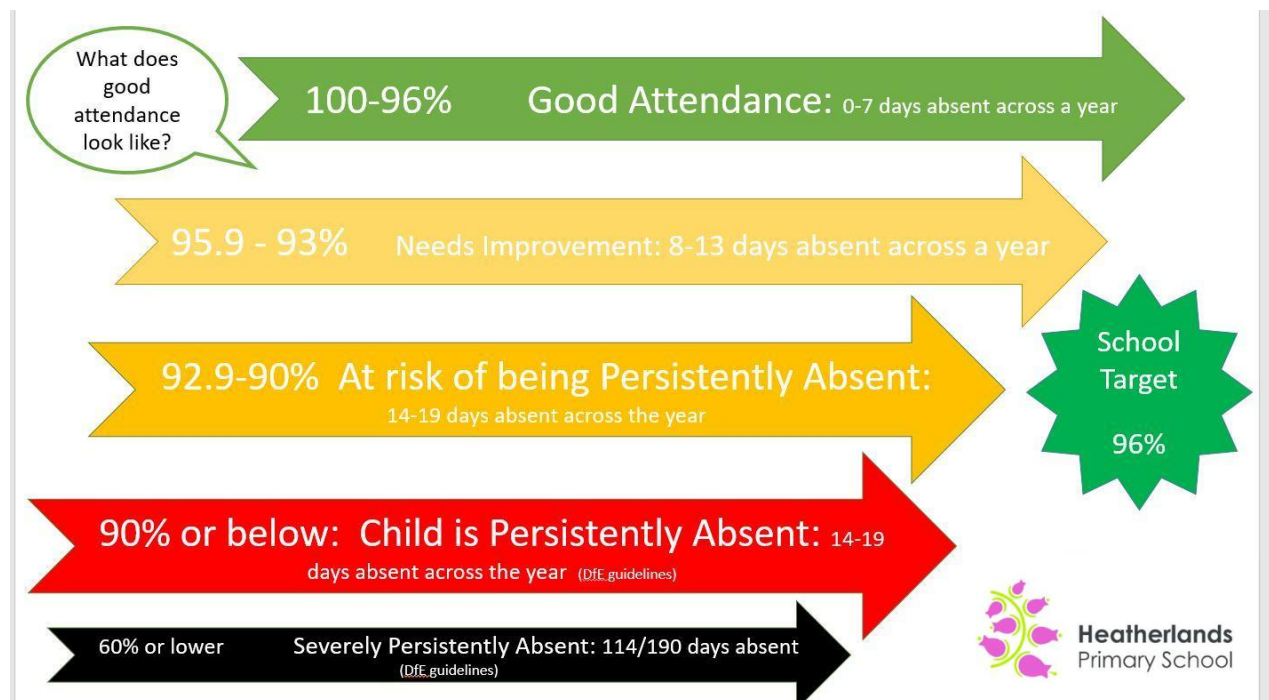
We kindly ask families to:

- Avoid booking appointments on Fridays wherever possible
- Ensure children attend school on Fridays unless they are genuinely unwell
- Help us reinforce the message that **every day of school matters**

Good attendance makes a real difference to children's learning, wellbeing and sense of belonging. By working together, we can help every child finish the week positively and ready for the next.

Thank you for your continued support.

Heatherlands Primary School



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