

# CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION POLICY

### **Admissions Register / First Attendance**

The School will enter all pupils' details on the electronic Admissions Register by the first day that the pupil is registered to attend the School. This will include contact details for at least two emergency contacts. If a pupil fails to attend on the agreed or notified date the School will undertake reasonable enquiries to establish the child's whereabouts and consider notifying the Local Authority at the earliest opportunity.

## **Attendance Register**

The School will record and monitor the attendance of all pupils through "taking a register" for each form at the start of both the morning and afternoon school sessions. The Local Authority will be notified in cases where:

- a pupil is absent from school, without authorised permission, for a period of 10 days or more
- a pupil has not returned to school after an authorised absence of ten consecutive days, except in
  exceptional circumstances where the school has been notified that a child is being educated
  elsewhere e.g. where a child is accompanying a parent on an overseas work placement and
  arrangements have been made to continue short term education whilst overseas or where the
  pupil is unable to attend school because of sickness or unavoidable cause.

The School will monitor the overall attendance statistics for pupils and there may be circumstances where, if this falls below 85%, Safeguarding concerns apply and the DSL will be notified. The DSL and Headteacher will decide whether a referral to the Local Authority should be made. It is the responsibility of the DSL to regularly monitor attendance and to inform the Headteacher (as appropriate) should there be any concern relating to the attendance of a pupil.

#### **Excluded Pupils**

In the unlikely event that any pupil is temporarily excluded from the school for a period exceeding 5 days then the school will make arrangements for the pupil to continue his/her education at home.

### **Maintaining Records**

The School will take steps to ensure that the contact details held in the electronic Admissions Register

are kept up to date. Parents are encouraged to notify the school of any changes whenever they occur.

When a pupil joins the school after the age of 5 the name of the pupil's previous school will be recorded. When a pupil leaves the school the destination school, where known, will be recorded.

# **Sharing Information with the Local Authority**

The school will notify the Local Authority when a pupil of compulsory school age leaves the school at a non-standard transition point e.g. other than at the end of the Summer Term at the end of Year 6. The school will provide the Local Authority with the following information:

- the full name of the pupil
- the full name and address of any parent with whom the pupil lives
- at least one telephone number (two wherever possible) of the parent(s) with whom the pupil lives
- where applicable the full name and address of any parent with whom the pupil will be going to live with and the date the pupil is expected to start living there
- the name of the pupil's destination school and anticipated start date if known
- the reason/grounds why the pupil has left the school

The school will notify the Local Authority within five days when a pupil's name is added to the admission register at a non-standard transition point. The school will provide the local authority with all the information held within the admission register about the pupil.

Where Nursery Childcare Funding is being claimed for a 3 or 4 year old, the school will provide details for the child and parents to the Local Authority.

#### **Unknown Whereabouts of a Child**

Where the whereabouts of a child is unclear or unknown, it is reasonable to expect that the Local Authority and the School will complete and record one or more of the following actions:

- make contact with the parent, relatives and neighbours using known contact details;
- check local databases within the local authority;
- check Key to Success or school2school (s2s) systems;
- follow local information sharing arrangements and where possible make enquiries via other local databases and agencies e.g. those of housing providers, school admissions, health services, police, refuge, Youth Justice Services, children's social care, and HMRC;
- check with UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) and/or the Border Force;
- check with agencies known to be involved with family;
- check with local authority and school from which child moved originally, if known;
- check with any local authority and school to which a child may have moved;

- check with the local authority where the child lives, if different from where the school is;
- in the case of children of Service Personnel, check with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) Children's Education Advisory Service (CEAS); and
- home visit(s) made by appropriate team, following local guidance concerning risk assessment and if appropriate make enquiries with neighbour(s) and relatives.

This list is not exhaustive or prescriptive, so local authorities and the School will treat each case on its individual merits and use its judgement, ensuring all of the facts of the case have been taken into account. It will be recognised that the type of reasonable enquiries required to try to locate a child will differ from case to case and additional enquiries to those suggested above may be necessary. Making these enquiries may not always lead to establishing the location of the child, but will provide a steer on what action should be taken next, for example, to contact the police, children's social care and, in cases where there may be concerns for the safety of a child who has travelled abroad, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

## **Children at Particular Risk of Missing Education**

Staff should be aware that children may be missing from education because they are suffering from abuse or neglect. Where this is suspected, the school will follow local child protection procedures as stated in the school's Safeguarding Policy.

| Policy Name | Children Missing Education                           | Creation Date:   | August 2018      |
|-------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| Status      | Statutory  | Governors Review | Summer Term 2023 |
|             |  | Next Review      | Summer Term 2024 |
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