

# VAUXHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vauxhall Street, London, SE11 5LG

**Executive Headteacher:** Mr Christopher Toyne

**Acting Headteacher:** Ms Vanessa Bennett

**Acting Deputy Headteacher:** Ms Vanessa Henry-Edwards

**Tel:** 020 7735 4535

**Email:** [office@vauxhallprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@vauxhallprimary.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.vauxhallprimary.org.uk](http://www.vauxhallprimary.org.uk)



## Article 28

*Children and young people have the right to education no matter who they are: regardless of race, gender or disability*

Monday 8th January, 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

We hope you have had a good start to 2024!

At Vauxhall Primary School, we are aiming to improve attendance and punctuality as we believe they are key to children making good attainment and progress, and reaching their full potential. Whilst the vast majority of parents/carers bring their children to school regularly and on time, it is crucial that **all** children attend school regularly and on time each day.

The Government's as well as the school's expectation is that all children should have an attendance figure of **95-97%**, and we are committed to work with you to achieve this.

Good attendance and punctuality is important as education lays the vital foundation of a child's life, and a good education gives children the best start in life

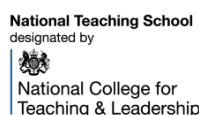
Research has shown that there is a direct link between under-achievement and poor attendance. Pupils with regular attendance are more likely to:

- learn and perform better
- build supportive relationships with peers and have emotional support that school environments can provide
- find school routines and school work easier to cope with.
- have an easier transfer to secondary school, having developed positive habits in attending school every day.

If your child is ill, school will need details of their illness. If the reasons for the absence are made known to us, and are appropriate, the absence will be authorised for the first few days. **If their illness continues, you may be asked for evidence from your GP.** However, school will not authorise non-attendance for illness, if it becomes too frequent (unless there is a known medical illness). If your child's attendance falls below 90% (persistent absentee), you will also be asked for medical evidence in order to authorise the absence, and you will be invited in for a meeting with me.

We are urging parents not to book holidays in term time as your child will miss chunks of learning which could have a detrimental effect on their progress. In line with Lambeth's guidance, we will not authorise any holidays in term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Try to book your child's appointments out of school hours. If you have to make an appointment during school time, help your child to be at school for most of the day and let the school know about the



appointment. You may be asked for an appointment card if your child is regularly absent due to illness or dental/medical appointments.

From time to time your child will wake up feeling a bit unwell. Whilst we do encourage children to come to school even if they 'feel a little unwell' we do not want any child who is genuinely ill to come to school. Always try to send your child to school if they are feeling a little poorly, for example with a runny nose, headache, tummy ache. The school will always contact you if your child becomes too unwell.

However, please do not send your child to school if they have any infectious illnesses like chicken pox, measles etc. Medical confirmation from your doctor will ensure your child's absence is authorised. If your child has been vomiting or is suffering from diarrhoea then they must stay away from school for 48 hours from the last episode of illness. This is to ensure that any infection does not spread through the school.

**The table below shows some useful information about illness related absences**

Condition	Time permitted off school
Head lice	None - but a treatment must be administered
Diarrhoea/Vomiting	48 hours from the last bout of sickness
Chicken Pox	up to 5 days or until the spots have crusted over

Punctuality is also important, as lateness can affect pupils' progress. We will be closely monitoring punctuality and put strategies in place to support pupils who are persistently late. The school gate opens for a soft start from 8:45 am and the register closes at 9:05 am. Any child arriving after this time must sign in at the office, and you or the child ( if he or she comes to school alone) will need to provide a reason for being late.

We look forward to welcoming your child back at school tomorrow, and working with you to improve our attendance and punctuality record.

Yours sincerely



Vanessa Henry-Edwards

Deputy Headteacher