



## Promoting Good Attendance at Brantridge School

### What is your duty?

#### **You are legally responsible for:**

Ensuring your child is in receipt of full time education.

Their regular and punctual attendance at school.

As a parent, you are committing an offense if you fail to ensure that your child attends school regularly and on time.

The school can refer cases of non-attendance to the Local Authority who may decide to prosecute.

#### **If this happens:**

Parents may be fined up to £2500.00, a Community Order or a jail sentence of up to 3 months for failing to ensure that their child attends school regularly.

Magistrates can also impose a Parenting Order, which means that the parent has to attend a Parenting Programme.

The school can refer cases to the Local Authority for a Penalty Notice to be issued; this is an alternative to prosecution. If such a notice is issued it is an immediate fine of £60.00 each parent, this amount rises to £120 if unpaid after 28 days. Failure to pay a Penalty Notice will normally lead to prosecution.

### What can you do?

#### **THE FACTS**

#### **If your child is absent from school you must:**

As early as you can on the **first** day of absence phone the school, or send a notice, or call at the school.

When your child returns to school always send a signed note which should be dated and give the reason for absence.

#### **The reasons your child should NOT be kept away from school include:**

To look after brothers or sisters

To mind the house

To visit relatives

For long weekends

For shopping trips

For birthdays.

The above will be recorded by the school as unauthorised absence. Where possible all medical appointments like doctors or dentists should be made outside of school time.

#### **Why is it important for my child to attend school regularly?**

Regular school attendance and good punctuality means your child can make the most of their education and this will improve their choices in adult life. It will also help them when they enter the world of work.

School helps children and young people with their social skills, making and maintaining friendship groups.

#### **How can I help my child attend school regularly?**

Talk to your child about their day.

Keep in touch with school and teaching staff about any concerns you or your child may have.

Attend parents evening, school meetings and other school events.





Brantridge School

Live, Laugh, Learn

**Can I get help if my child is not attending school regularly?**

**Yes**, we recognise that poor attendance may be a symptom of a wide range of community, family or individual circumstances. Many of these circumstances will require intervention from outside agencies. We will in the first instance invite you into school to discuss and put support strategies in place for your child.

**How can we help?**

Brantridge School is committed to providing a full time and efficient education for all pupils.

But sometimes things go wrong!

School can offer help by providing advice and support to you and your child.

Please call Carole Johns, Head of Care on 01444 400228