

Persistent Absence At Beecroft - 5 Point Plan

Persistent Absence = A Serious Safeguarding Concern

What is persistent absence?

- If your child is absent 10% of the time, with an attendance of below 90%, it is considered to be persistent absence.
- Persistent Absence is a safeguarding concern and Beecroft Primary School takes it very seriously.
- Pupils with low attendance fall behind.
- There may be family issues that the school must know about and can help you with.
- Your child is at risk of harm if you do not ensure they attend school.
- School attendance is compulsory and the law.

What we do in the case of persistent absence:

1. SAP (School Attendance Panel Meeting)
Parents are invited to meet with the head teacher to discuss attendance. This meeting will cover:
 - *Does your family need early help because you can't get your child to school?*
 - *Are there family issues the school needs to know about to help you?*
 - *Is the school near enough for you to walk?*
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2. Phone calls home will be made whenever your child is absent.
 - You must provide doctor's notes for your child's absence
 - Daily monitoring of your child's attendance will take place in school.
3. The school puts systems/ special measures in place to help your child attend – These measures may include short term taxi or home collection system.
4. Home Visits from our Early Help Officer
5. Persistent Absence (below 90%) at the end of the school year MUST be above this figure when your child moves into the next school year.
 - A repeat of Persistent Absence will be considered a serious safeguarding concern at this point.
 - Your family will be fined and referred to the courts for further action.