

Please keep us informed!

If your child is absent please contact the school office (01661 824853) on the first day of absence before 10.00 am.



Every Day Counts

Missing School

is missing out!

Good Attendance

habits begin early.

Additional notes:

- Parents do not need apply for leave of absence for a routine medical appointment but are asked to write a note in their child's school diary;
- Mrs Rodda will give you your child's attendance percentage at the press of a button;
- See school website calendar for scheduled dates.



**Attendance
Information for
Parents & Carers**

**Ponteland Community
Middle School**

Callerton Lane
Ponteland
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE20 9EY
Tel: 01661 824853
Fax 01661 860020
Email:

pms@pontelandmiddle.northumberland.sch.uk

Having a good education will help to give children and young people the best possible chance in life.



**Joint Statement from the
Headteachers within the Ponteland
Partnership of Schools:**

School Attendance and Punctuality

The Ponteland Partnership of Schools is united in their view that it is detrimental for children to be taken out of school during term time and that this should only happen for exceptional reasons.

We believe this because; in our view, children who gain full attendance at school will:

- maximise their chance of achieving well;
- suffer less disruption and thus be more settled;
- develop better work habits;
- be more receptive to learning;
- Maximise all educational opportunities open to them.

For those children who miss school for avoidable reasons, we find the following:

- they miss important learning and create gaps in their learning;
- they can find it hard to “catch up”;
- they can feel left out of social interaction with their peer groups;
- they find it difficult to settle back into school;
- they can develop a poor work ethic;
- their absence can have an effect on other children.

All our schools praise and reward good attendance. In addition, a pupil or student who is frequently late is similarly disadvantaged, if not more so.

If a child is late for just one week per year (5 times), by the time they are 16 they will have missed the equivalent of one term’s registration and first lessons.

If children miss 3 weeks (15 days) in any year, this equates to one whole year by the time they are 16.

In order for our pupils and students to be able to fulfil their potential, the Ponteland Partnership of Schools would encourage everyone to join with us and the majority of parents, to ensure all children achieve maximum attendance.

From September 2013 amendments have been made to Government legislation. The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 make clear that headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

In order to grant a family’s case for absence please write a letter to the headteacher outlining the reason for an absence request. Please include, in this request, details of any siblings in other schools. An absence may be granted by the headteacher if the circumstances are deemed to be exceptional. Each case will be decided on its own merit. No absence request will be granted in the period of, and leading up to, statutory assessment and external examinations.

In summary, speak to the Headteacher long before any decisions are made.