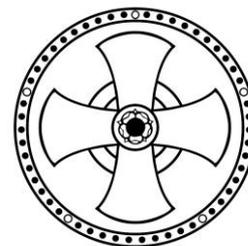




OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

THE GREEN
ROTTINGDEAN
BRIGHTON BN2 7HA
www.ourladyoflourdesprimaryschool.co.uk



September 7th 2020

Re: Attendance, Breakfast and After School Clubs

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was brilliant to see so many of you this morning during the 'drop off' and I'm pleased to say that the measures we've put in place have worked well so far! It has been equally thrilling to have such high attendance rates across the school today and at last have Our Lady's filled with children. In case any further guidance was required on attendance, I've put further details below:

Attendance Guidance:

All children are now expected to attend school - this is a legal requirement. We understand that there may be some families and/or children who are anxious about returning to school, and there may be a very small number of pupils unable to attend in line with public health advice because they have had symptoms or a positive coronavirus test result themselves and are required to self-isolate.

The Department of Education has published the following:

It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development. Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- *parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;*
- *schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence*
- *the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct*

If you would like to discuss your own exceptional circumstances or if you are worried about anything related to attendance or absence from school please contact me and I will be pleased to discuss how we might work together to ensure all children return.

Breakfast and After School Club

I can honestly say I know what it's like arranging wrap around care for our children having had this problem at home and I am doing my best to offer what I can. Unfortunately, I'm not in a position to replace the Anthropods after school club and therefore there is **no after school club currently available**. I have attempted to find a replacement provision for those that need it, but have been unable to do so. Breakfast Club is running, but having taken bookings over the summer, this provision **is now at capacity** and I cannot take any extra children as I cannot ensure social distancing and do not have the staff available. As soon as the situation with either offer changes, I will be in contact with you. Kind regards and best wishes for a good term.

Paul Barber
Headteacher

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