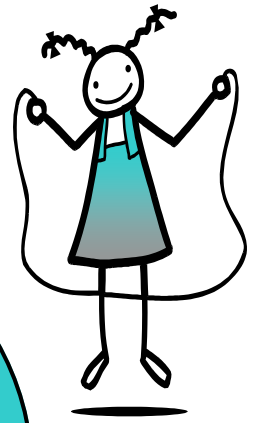
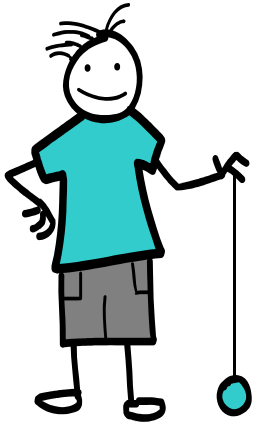


Pickering Community

Learning, Caring, Sharing



Infant and Nursery School



Good school attendance includes arriving in school on time. Punctuality is very important as it sets the standards from the very beginning. Please encourage a habit of regular and punctual attendance with your child.

Attendance, Punctuality and Leave of Absence

Ruffa Lane

Pickering YO18 7AT

Tel: 01751 472620

E-mail: admin@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Sarah Gillam



School Times

Main School

Our class doors open at 8.55am.
Registration is taken at 9.00am and
1pm daily.

School ends at 3.25pm

Nursery

Morning 8.45am - 11.45am

Lunch 11.45am - 12.30pm

Afternoon 12.30pm - 3.30pm



Lateness

Arriving late to school may cause difficulties for your child

- ☹ Missing important information about the day in registration
- ☹ It may be embarrassing to walk into a lesson that has already started
- ☹ Missing even part of a lesson can be difficult to catch up on
- ☹ It can affect behaviour and self-esteem

If your child is late or going to be late:

- ☹ Contact us to tell us why
- ☹ If the class entrance door has been closed, bring your child to the office and a member of the office team will take them to class and then you can sign the late book.
- ☹ Come and see us if you have any difficulties



Lateness and absence is checked weekly by the Headteacher

Can we help?

Sometimes children get worried about going to school. This may be for various reasons, such as problems with school work. If you are worried about your child's attendance, then please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Absences

Tel: 01751 472620 Email: admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

First day of absence

As a school we expect 100% attendance from our children. We appreciate though that children can sometimes pick up common childhood illnesses. If this is ever the case, telephone or e-mail the school, preferably first thing in the morning, on the first day of absence. Please keep us informed if the absence continues. In the case of diarrhoea and sickness please keep your child off school for 48 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea.

The school office is open for help and advice, including about exclusion periods if applicable for specific illnesses, between 8.15am and 4pm. We will always work with families around attendance to offer support and guidance. Our SENDCo (Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator) will also work closely with families of children who have medical conditions that impact on their attendance.

Medical Appointments

Parents should make every effort to arrange medical and dental appointments after school or during school holidays. If there is no alternative and your child has to be absent, please inform the school office and provide a copy of your child's appointment letter or card. Children should only be taken out of school for their own appointments, except in exceptional circumstances pre arranged with the Headteacher. Parents should arrange for siblings to be dropped off or collected by someone, where possible. Children should attend school before and/or return after an appointment. Pre-school jabs can be administered anytime before a child starts school in Reception. We would therefore encourage parents to arrange these to be given during the school holidays.

Persistent Absentees

As a school we expect 100% attendance from our children and it is a legal requirement for families to support this aim and bring their children to school as long as children are well enough. Attendance below 90% is of particular concern and the Department for Education (DfE) defines children who fall into this category as persistent absentees. There are formal procedures that we follow to monitor attendance, offer support for families and, where little progress is made, make referrals for further action to the Local Authority where children of statutory school age fall into this category.

Unexplained Absences

It is a parent/carer's responsibility to inform school should their child be absent for any reason. If we do not have this information from you, and your child is absent without explanation, we will refer to our **safeguarding procedures** in order to establish the whereabouts of your child. Home visits will be carried out and we will try to establish contact with other relatives using the emergency contact details that you have supplied to us. Please note that this may also include contacting other agencies such as Housing, Health, Children's Social Care, and/or the Police.

Government policy states that parents and guardians have a duty to ensure that their children attend school regularly, on time and must provide an explanation for any absences.



Attendance and Punctuality Matters

Parents' checklist:

- 👉 Telephone school or e-mail on the first day of your child's absence/lateness
- 👉 Ensure that your contact details are up to date
- 👉 Encourage your child to aim for 100% attendance each week
- 👉 Arrange your holidays during official school holiday times
- 👉 Try to arrange appointments out of school time
- 👉 Be firm with your child about his/her attendance
- 👉 Can we help? If problems persist then do not hesitate to contact the school to discuss them

Leave of Absence - Holidays

As a school, we understand the importance of family time together and know that holidays are a great opportunity to spend time together that is often not possible with busy working lives. However, there are 13 weeks of the year when children are not in school and holidays should be taken at these times. Holidays in term time disrupt a child's learning and can have an impact on the progress that they make. For this reason, we strongly encourage all families to take holidays during school holiday time, including our Nursery and four year old Reception children who are not yet of statutory school age. We share your desire for your child to succeed academically and socially and this is much easier to achieve if attendance is good.

Attendance of pupils is regularly checked by the Headteacher.

What the law says about school attendance:

'Where a child is taken out of school for the purpose of leave of absence in term time without permission of the school the absence will be coded as unauthorised and as such may result in a Penalty Notice. Penalties are applied by the Local Authority and as such are not at the discretion of the Headteacher. If a Penalty Notice is not paid, the matter may be taken to prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Parents must from 1st September 2024 pay (per child) £80 rising to £160 if not paid within 21 days. From the 2024 to 2025 school year, each parent will only get up to 2 fines for the same child in a 3-year period. If you get a second fine in 3 years it will be £160. If you do not pay the fine in 28 days you may be taken to court for keeping your child out of school. If your child is off school 3 or more times within the 3 years you will not be fined but may be taken to court.'