



8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Be an Attendance H.E.R.O.

Welcome back to all our families. We hope you've had an enjoyable summer holiday and are well rested. Today we were delighted to launch the 'Be an Attendance H.E.R.O.' campaign - this was shared with pupils in assembly and will be shared with our newest pupils in Reception next week too. In the assembly we talked about the importance of coming to school each day that we're well and being here on time too. The H.E.R.O. stands for being:

Here  
Everyday  
Ready and  
On time

(Of course if pupils are ill they must be kept off school until better and absences notified to the School Office accordingly).

We are launching this exciting new campaign to help reward those with great attendance already and support others to aspire to improve theirs. School Councillors will be asked to come up with ideas on how individual pupils with great attendance should be rewarded this academic year so that we can consider their ideas too. Details on how each class has done will be posted on the school website on Monday afternoons (after we have shared the results with pupils in our Celebration and Attendance assemblies).

As many of you will know research shows that attendance is a major factor that impacts directly on how well children do at school not just academically, but socially and emotionally too.



Executive Headteacher: Mrs L. Gould  
Head of School: Mr R. Leigh

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### Attendance Newsletter

Next week our very first Attendance Newsletter will be issued in addition to the regular newsletter and focuses specifically on this important part of school life.

### Arrival in the morning

Thanks for working hard to get to school on time each day this week - even through the showers this morning! We know it might have been tricky after such a long summer break.

### Classroom doors open for longer

Informal discussions with parents and carers has identified that pupils who last year arrived through the main entrance were doing so possibly because you understandably found it frustrating to walk round to the classroom/year group door only to find it closed after most other pupils have entered even if you were only a minute or so after the 'doors close at time'. As a direct result of your conversations and comments to staff we have agreed that from Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> September classroom/year group doors will be kept open for an **additional 5 minutes** to allow pupils to enter with their peers through the classroom or year group doors.

This means that

- in Years 3 to 6, year group doors will not close before 08:55 a.m.
- in Reception, Years 1 and 2 classroom doors will not close before 09:05 a.m.

### Thank you

Thank you for starting the year off so well with so few pupils coming in through the School Office. This has reduced congestion in the lobby a great deal. In addition, pupils report that they enjoy coming in with their friends and enjoying getting straight to the classroom in good time.

As always, if you have any questions regarding attendance please do not hesitate to contact one of us.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Gould'.

Mrs L. Gould  
Executive Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Leigh'.

Mr R. Leigh  
Head of School

