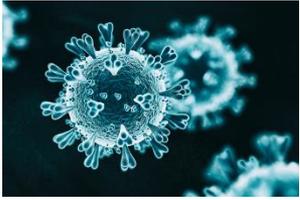


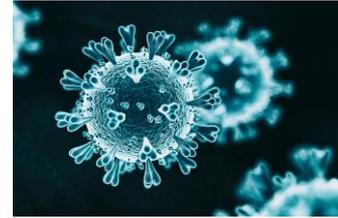
St Helens Education Welfare Service

Reception Intake Information for Parents





Coronavirus (COVID 19)



The pandemic has been very difficult for us all. We are now trying to get back to normal and the government state that our children returning to school is a major step along this path.

We understand that you may be worried about sending your little ones back to school. But, we are doing all we can in line with current health and government advice to make school safe whilst also making it enjoyable and exciting for our children.

If you are worried please talk to us and share your concerns and we try to help you.

For current local advice and information on coronavirus please go to: <https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/coronavirus>



What is compulsory school age for reception pupils?



5

This the date that **you** become legally responsible to make sure **your** child attends school.

The government have set the dates below to tell you when your child is compulsory school age depending on their birthday

Childs Birthday	Compulsory school age date
1 st September and 31 st December	31 st December
1 st January to 31 st March	31 st March
1 st April to 31 st August	1 st September



Who is a parent with regard to school attendance?

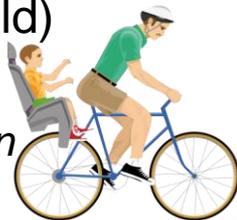
The law tells us who is a parent. If you fall into the group below, you are legally responsible to make sure a child in your care attends school



1. *All natural parents, married or not.*
2. *Any person who has parental responsibility.*
3. *Any person who has care of a child.*

(Generally a parent is anybody with day to day responsibility for a child)

*The Local Authority and school will decide who comes within this definition when using legal measures. *section 576 of the Education Act 1996.*



made by niki



What do I do if my child can't attend school?



Please phone school before 9:30am

Or, you **will** receive a text/phone call from school or a home visit

On return to school .. show us any medical evidence you may have to support the absence...

- Appointment card
- Prescription medicine
- Medical letter
- Care at the chemist



**** We do not require Covid-19 test results or evidence of GP telephone consultations, we just require honesty.....**





Leave of absence

(including holidays in term time)

School can only authorise leave of absence in ‘exceptional circumstances’

Please apply in writing **in advance** and tell us:

- ✓ **Why** your child will be out of school?
- ✓ **When** your child will be off school?
- ✓ **How many days** your child be off school?
- ✓ Show us any supporting evidence, **this is very important** and lets the Headteacher consider your application properly.



It will always be the **Headteacher's decision** to either **authorise or unauthorise** the absence.



Working together with school



If your child has attendance problems or you are worried about another issue:

- Talk to us
- Share your worries
- Work with us

We can help with referrals to access help or support.

- Early help assessments (EHAT)
- Parenting
- School health
- Many other agencies and support services.....



How does your school monitor attendance?

- ✓ Attendance letters
- ✓ School meetings
- ✓ Home visits



- ✓ Tell you if your child is a Persistent Absentee (PA) **90** % attendance or below
- ✓ School can request a Penalty Notice fine from the Local Authority



- ✓ If your child's attendance is very poor you can be prosecuted in the magistrates court (this is a last resort if you do not work with school to improve attendance)

Please work with us to address any attendance concerns before they become a problem.

