### **Persistent Absence**

# Fast Track to Attendance

'FIRST SUPPORT' to Attendance' is an Early Help approach to improving pupil attendance which also seeks to act quickly where there is unauthorised absence.

If the pupil's attendance fails to improve after Early Help support, we will ask parents to attend a meeting to discuss the next steps.

If pupil's attendance fails to improve after this meeting the details will be passed to the Pastoral team who will look at the next stages and work with families to avoid legal proceedings.

Should there still be no improvement in a pupil's attendance then parents can be taken to court and fined.

We trust that all

parents will support us

in our efforts to improve

allendance al

Koly Family Catholic School

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## Attendance and Punctuality



We live, love and learn together in the light of God

## THE IMPORTANCE OF MONITORING ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

\*Once a child is registered at a school it is the parents' responsibility to make sure that they attend

\*Poor attendance levels have a serious effect on pupils' progress and achievement

\*The school has a responsibility to monitor pupils' attendance and concerns will be passed to the Education Welfare Service

\*Our minimum expected level of attendance from pupils is 97%

### SCHOOL MONITORING

Parents must telephone the school by 9.00 am on the first day of absence to inform us of the reason for non-attendance.

- If we do not receive a call, we will send a reminder by text message.
- If we do not then receive a call we will contact you by telephone.
- If we do get a response we will endeavour to make a home visit.
- If your child arrives to school after the gate has closed, parents must sign them in on the electronic system in the school office.

#### **LATENESS**

Punctuality is extremely important so that children have the best possible start to their day. It is parents' responsibility to ensure that their child is in school on time every morning.

\* Doors open at 8.30 & Registration is at 9.00

Please note that if your child arrives between **8.45** and **9.15** they will be marked as late and a parent will need to sign them in at the school office.

If they arrive <u>after</u> this time they will be marked as unauthorised late and this will affect their attendance record.

#### **Persistent Absentee**

Any pupil with less than 90% attendance will be deemed as a 'Persistent Absentee' by the Education Authority. Obviously due to illness a pupil is not expected to be in school, but we do ask for proof of illness and medical conditions to warrant time off school.