

AIRY HILL

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

September 2020
Issue 2



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WELCOME BACK!!! We have been delighted to see everyone back in school these past weeks!

Our pupils have shown some amazing resilience through these difficult times, tackling home learning and finding their way back into the routine of school life.

We do however, recognise that many children are experiencing some feelings of anxiety returning to school and this is completely normal and to be expected. The transition from summer holidays back into the school year can sometimes be stressful and disruptive; this year is even more challenging as we attempt to manoeuvre a safe and effective return to the classroom following the coronavirus pandemic.

If your child appears anxious about attending school what about helping them create a Worry Box?

What is a Worry Box?



- Find a small box, such as a shoe box, that has a lid
- Decorate the box
- Agree where you will keep the box so that it easily accessible
- Every time you have a worry write it down and put it in the box
- You must then try not to think about it again until worry time
- Choose a trusted adult you would like to talk about your worries with
- Agree a set time each day when the worries will be discussed, not before bedtime!
- At worry time the box is opened and each worry is discussed in turn. You can allocate the worry to other people or throw it away once it is dealt with

There are many ways you can support your child's successful transition into school, please check out the numerous useful links on the "Coronavirus Well-being" page on our school website www.airyhill.n-yorks.sch.uk for help and advice. Or feel free to contact Miss Green directly with any concerns you may have.

Getting here on time every day is important in helping your child to become a happy and successful learner.

Every day really does count!



Here are some **Top Tips** for you to help get your child to school on time, all the time:

1. Talk to your child about school, take a positive interest in your child's work, including homework
2. Make sure your child understands why school is important
3. Get everything ready for school the night before (uniform, PE kit, packed lunch, school books)
4. Arrange appointments before or after school and bring your child to school for the time before or after an appointment wherever possible
5. Take holidays during school holidays NOT during term time
6. Help get your child to bed at a reasonable time and set your alarm and your child's alarm – see who can beat the clock!
7. Only grant days at home for **genuine** illness (you will know!)
8. If your child is slightly under the weather, send them in. Children often start feeling better as the day goes on and they get busy, and if school is worried we will call you.

There is much evidence to show that good attendance plays a vital role in helping your child to achieve their potential. We also know that poor attendance can lead to other problems for children.

Children who do not attend school regularly are more likely to:

- Fall behind in their school work
- Find it difficult to make and keep friends
- Be unhappy at school
- Misbehave so others cannot see that they are finding the work difficult
- Learn poor attendance habits that follow through into secondary school and employment



Please **help us** and **your child** by ensuring their attendance remains above **96%**, allowing them to **achieve** their potential.



Dream, Believe, Aspire, Achieve