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Attendance, Punctuality and Holidays Important Announcement

Dear Parent/Carer,

Attendance Update - At Kepier we are always striving to ensure that our learners attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in secondary school. The government expects schools and local authorities to:

- Promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence.
- Ensure every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled; and
- act early to address patterns of absence.
- Parents to perform their legal duty by ensuring their children of compulsory school age who are registered at school attend regularly.
- All pupils to be punctual to their lessons.

For this reason, we have updated our Attendance Policy 2020/21 to include key changes that we hope will incentivise better attendance and improve understanding of what the benefits are for good attendance. Our 2020/21 Attendance Policy can be found on the school website under: Information - Policies.

Punctuality Update - Lockdown presented a number of unique challenges for all of us and as an Academy we wanted to offer as much flexibility towards punctuality in supporting learners primarily attending school without penalising for lateness. As we are now transitioning back into normal school life we need learners to be on time for school. From this Monday the 17th May we will be monitoring lateness closely for each individual learner and introducing the following preventative system.

- Any learner who arrives late to school more than once in any given week will be given a 1 hour after school detention on a Friday from 2.50pm - 3.50pm.
- Failure to complete this detention will result in the detention being completed the next school day with the additional sanction of break and lunch detention.

Holiday requests - We have no wish to deprive families of a well-earned family holiday, but our first concern has to be the educational development of our learners. Knowing that there was scope for lost learning during the lockdown seasons we want to emphasise to all parents the need to avoid term time holidays and that any holidays taken during term time may be liable to incur a Fixed Penalty Notice in accordance with Sunderland City Council.

Should you have any questions please send them to my email address at bissets@kepier.com, alternatively you can call me on 0191 512 8960 ext. 203

Yours sincerely,

Mr S. Bisset

Senior Community Inclusion Manger.

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