

Philosophy and purpose

- This policy reflects the school values and philosophy in relation to attendance at school. It sets out a framework within which teaching and non-teaching staff can operate and gives guidance on practise within school.
- Pear Tree School seeks to ensure that all its pupils receive a full-time education which maximises opportunities for each pupil to achieve the best they can in everything they do.
- The school will strive to provide a welcoming, caring environment whereby each member of the school community feels wanted and secure.
- All staff will work with pupils and their families to ensure each pupil attends school regularly and punctually.
- The school will establish, if needed, systems to encourage pupils to improve their attendance and will challenge the behaviour of those pupils and parents who give low priority to attendance.
- To meet these objectives Pear Tree Specialist School will establish an effective and efficient system of communication with pupils, parents and appropriate agencies to provide mutual information, advice and support.
- If for medical reasons a pupil is not able to attend school over a long period of time, the school will offer some home schooling if this is appropriate to the situation.

Aims

1. To maintain the high level of attendance that exists at Pear Tree Specialist School.
2. To make attendance a priority for all those associated with the school including pupils, parents, staff, and governors.
3. To provide support advice and guidance to parents and pupils.
4. To develop systems for gathering and analysing attendance data.
5. To further develop positive and consistent communication between home and school.
6. To develop systems that encourage pupils to attend school.
7. To promote effective partnerships with the Children and Young People Service and with other services and agencies.
8. To recognise the needs of individual pupils when planning re-integration following significant periods of absence.

Date of policy: Spring 2016

To be reviewed: Spring 2019