FOURFIELDS COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

IRREGULAR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OVER TIME

New statutory guidance called '*Working Together to Improve School Attendance*' comes into effect on **19th August 2024.** It details what schools, parents and Local Authorities should do to improve pupils' attendance at school.

Schools are legally obliged to provide support and intervention for pupils who are at risk of persistent absence (90% attendance or below).

This will take the form of meetings with parents, school-based interventions and the offer of support from outside agencies and professionals.

Please see below the legal pathways that must be followed where attendance is a cause for concern.

IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING WITH YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH FOR SUPPORT. WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

1 ATTENDANCE CONTRACT

Parents and school work together to improve attendance in a supportive and nurturing way.

An **Attendance Contract** will be offered. Regular informal meetings will identify any barriers to attendance and discuss what support can be put in place to support those barriers.

2 NOTICE TO IMPROVE

If a parent does not engage with offers of support from school and attendance continues to decline, a **Notice to Improve** will act as a formal collaboration between the school, the Local Authority and parents.

Please click on link for further information on new guidance:

CLICK HERE

3 LEGAL SANCTIONS

If formal support has failed and attendance is still a concern, a referral to the Local Authority will be made for legal sanctions to be considered.

Penalty Notice fines will be considered when there have been 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

The Attendance Champion for our school is one of our Assistant Head teachers - Lucy Hewerdine. She is a member of the Senior Leadership Team and can be contacted via help@fourfields.cambs.sch.uk