

# Attendance Newsletter



Hello and welcome to the first edition of St Bart's Attendance Newsletter. Although attendance at St Bart's is excellent and above the national average, our aim, as a school, is to improve our attendance figures even more because regular attendance really does matter. Read on to find out more...

## Did you know?

The Government recommend that the minimum level of attendance is 95% and anything below this is likely to impact on a child's academic attainment.

St Bart's current whole school attendance is 96.9%. Our target set by the local authority is 97%.  
341 children out of our 413 children have attendance of 95% or more.

**57 children at St Bart's have 100% attendance so far this year. Congratulations to all of you!**

## Why is good attendance important?

Education lays the important foundations for your child's life. Regular and punctual attendance at school is key to both academic and social development which will, in turn, improve your child's life chances.

## What does 90% look like?

1 day off every two weeks! How would your boss feel if you took a day off every fortnight?

## What does 95% look like?

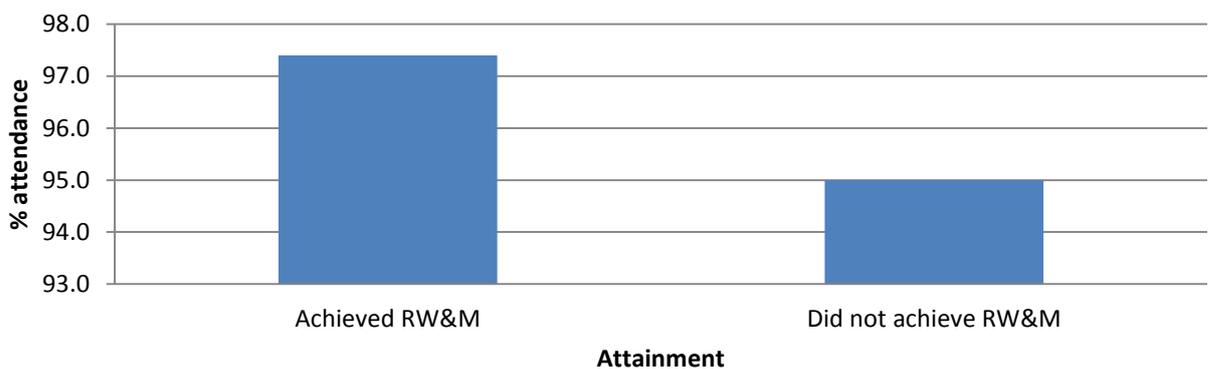
1 day off every 4 weeks. How many of you have a day off work every four weeks?

## It's true! Coming to school improves academic performance

As you can see from the table below, attendance really matters at St Bart's. The average attendance for year 6 children, who did not achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths was 95% compared to 97.4% for those children who did reach the expected standard in all three areas last year. This might seem a small number but over the course of 7 years at St Bart's every day adds up.

Read on for more interesting statistics about how attendance affects children's academic performance at St Bart's.

## Average attendance of children who achieved combined RW&M in KS2 in 2017



## Why is good punctuality important?

Consistent lateness can have a surprisingly notable impact. Being 10minutes late every day can add up to approximately 6 whole days across the year. Being late for anything can be stressful and cause us to rush. When we are stressed and rushing, none of us do our best work. Children who arrive at 8:30am always seem more settled in the morning compared to those who tend to arrive at 8:45am, rushing to make it through the gate. How can you organise your mornings so that your child arrives in good time?

## Quotes from children

'It is reassuring to get to school on time early because you don't miss any lessons.'

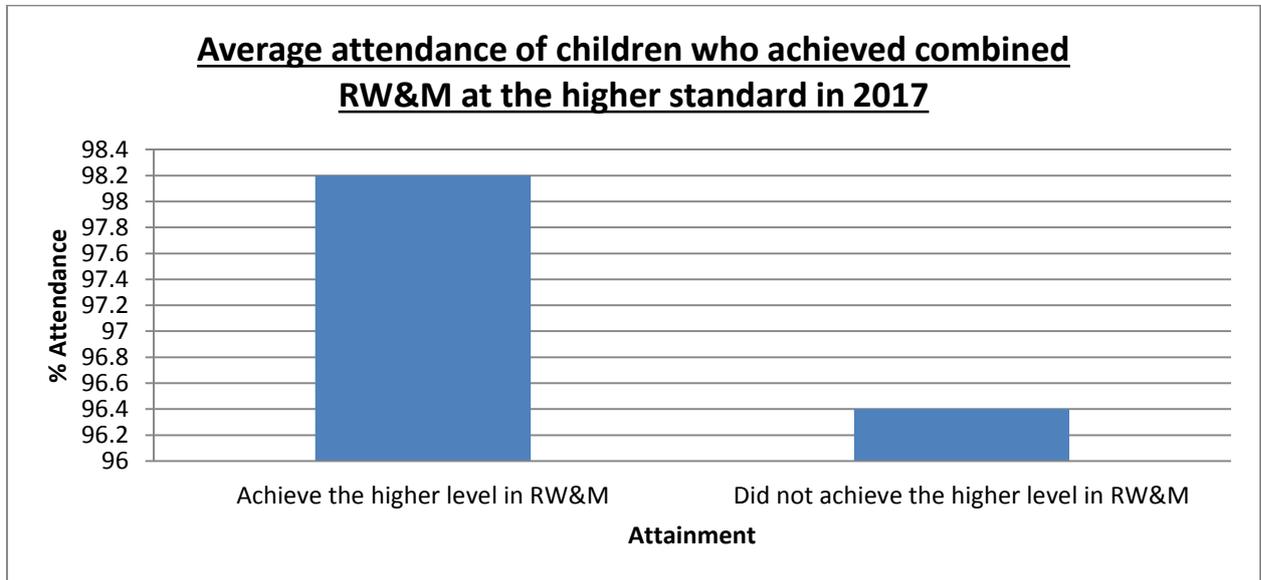
'I feel like I missed learning time and get annoyed.'

'I don't like being late because I don't feel comfortable when I walk into class.'

'If you are late, you feel stressed as we have some tests in year 6 so you want a relaxed/easy morning.'

The top attainers have the best attendance!

To many of you, this might not be a big surprise but the children who achieve the higher standard (greater depth) in reading, writing and maths really do have outstanding attendance. If you want the top grades, you need to be in school as much as possible. Every day counts! See the chart below.



The graph below shows attendance really matters. Only children with a school career attendance (EYFS – Year 6) above 92.9% achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths at the end of Year 6. This strongly backs up the government’s suggestion that attendance below 95% impacts on children’s academic attainment.

