



# Longshaw Junior School

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Headteacher: Jonathan Berry BA (HONS) PGCE NPQH

**SUCCESS FOR ALL – NOTHING LESS!**

24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank-you for all your support during the first half term. Eight weeks have simply flown by with lots of learning and fun along the way. As you all know, good school attendance enables your child to thrive both socially and academically. Children with great attendance tend to achieve well in all areas and develop those fundamental good habits of turning up on time everyday ready for the day ahead. This positive mindset not only sets them up for school but fundamentally establishes those good habits and routines they will need in the future.

As a school, we actively promote good attendance with the children and offer all manner of incentives to keep it high profile. Unfortunately, we still tend to find a number of children with attendance that is best described as 'hit and miss.' During the next half term, we really need to pull together to have a real push on raising our attendance levels across school. Our attendance figures are slightly below where they need to be and we need to see some improvements over the next half term. I will play my part by keeping it high profile in school, may I ask that you play yours by ensuring your child is here everyday unless it is unavoidable?

I fully appreciate that if your child is genuinely ill, they shouldn't be here but if it's just a sniffle or simply tiredness, these are not valid reasons to be off school. In addition, we do not insist on a 48 hour rule following a bout of sickness. We leave this to your parental discretion.

My approach has always been to advise parents to send their child in and we will make the call if they need to come home.

With all that said, let's pull together and drive our attendance figures up together. As an added incentive, I am going to put together a Christmas hamper for the grownups for helping me out with this. If your child has attendance above 98% between now and Christmas you could land yourself a very nice prize indeed as bit of a thank-you from me. I will also have some gift vouchers as runner up prizes, which will certainly come in handy. We will pick out the winners randomly in a Christmas raffle during our last assembly of the year.

Let us get our attendance above 96% by Christmas - together we can do this!

Thanks for your continued support, I sincerely appreciate it.

Regards,

Mr Berry  
Headteacher