



Amwell View School and Specialist Sports College

Headteacher: Mrs Jan Liversage
B. Ed., Ad. Dip., B. Phil. (MSI)

NEWSLETTER 354

17 September 2013

Dear Parents/Carers

School Attendance

New guidance has been issued in August 2013, from the DfE, which sets out the responsibilities and requirements, for children of statutory school age, to attend school. The guidance aims to promote good attendance, reduce absence and ensure that every pupil has access to full time education. It is anticipated that pupils will use their entitlement to full-time education and attend school regularly.

Under the new guidance Headteachers should not grant leave of absence for holidays, unless in exceptional circumstances. This decision will be made at the next Governors meeting on Tuesday 24th September 2013.

Attendance at school is important. When your child is in school they have a rich, busy curriculum. Education is fun and provides so many opportunities. It is also true that your child's attendance at school also provides an element of child care. Education is free and should be valued. It would be dreadful if education for your child was not available, or that we returned to the days before the 1971 Education Act when children with Special Educational Needs did not have an entitlement to education at all.

You will find this new guidance on the school website www.amwell.herts.sch.uk under the tab: Parents/Carers, Absence and Attendance.

I have also attached a letter from Justin Donovan who is the Director of Education in Hertfordshire.

We will publish the outcome of the decision made by the Governing Body on our web-site and in a newsletter.

I do hope that you will respect this Government decision, so that we fall within the statutory requirements of Educating Children in School in England.

Kind regards

Jan Liversage
Head Teacher