



The Federation of the Church Schools of
Shalfleet and Freshwater & Yarmouth

Together for a Brighter Future

School Attendance

Dear Parents and Carers,

At our Federation, we know that good attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children thrive, both academically and personally.

Coming to school every day helps children learn and make progress, but the benefits go far beyond the classroom. Regular attendance helps children build confidence, develop friendships, learn how to work with others, become more independent and build resilience. School provides children with routine, stability and a sense of belonging within our school community.

Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure their child attends school regularly. The government expects children to attend school every day unless they are too unwell to do so. As a school, we are also required to monitor attendance and support families where attendance becomes a concern. If your child is ill, please let us know their symptoms when reporting the absence. We encourage parents to use the NHS guidance "**Is my child too ill for school?**" which explains when children should stay at home and when they can still attend school

[Not sure if your child is well enough for school?](#)

[NHS guidance sheet - Is my child too ill for school?](#)

Children with minor illnesses, such as a cold, can often attend school safely and we will always keep an eye on them during the day.

We know that attendance difficulties can sometimes be linked to wider family circumstances. Our first priority is always to work with families and offer support. However, where attendance remains a concern, support is not engaged with, or absences are unauthorised, schools are required to follow statutory attendance procedures. This may include referral to the Local Authority and, in some cases, the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices. If you are experiencing any difficulties that are affecting your child's attendance, please contact the school office. Our

Inclusion Team is available to provide advice, guidance and support, and we will work with you to help your child attend school regularly and successfully.

Thank you for your continued support.

Why attendance matters



Please see below a few short clips of animations to support your child's attendance.

[Why attending every day matters in primary school](#)

[Tips for how parents can support with good attendance in primary school](#)

[Starting primary school and support your child's attendanceIllness absence and staying healthy](#)

NHS Flu Vaccination Programme



Why vaccines are important

Vaccines help protect children and young people from serious illnesses. The [NHS vaccination schedule](#) is designed to offer the best protection to children at the right time. This gives children the best start in life.

Making sure children are up to date with their vaccines helps to:

- reduce the spread of infection and stop outbreaks of disease
- keep children in school, or accessing education if home schooled, so they can continue to learn and develop
- protect people who cannot be vaccinated through 'herd immunity', meaning that when enough people are vaccinated, infections cannot easily spread

The vaccinations offered as part of the school-aged vaccination service are:

1. Flu vaccinations – offered to children in reception to year 11
2. HPV vaccinations – offered to children in year 8

3. MenACWY and 3 in 1 teenage booster (Td/IPV) – offered to children in year 9
4. MMRV/MMR vaccinations – offered as a catch-up service to school-aged children from reception to year 11