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The importance of positive school attendance.

As a school we are constantly striving to improve ourselves in terms of provision for pupils, quality of teaching and learning and pupil outcomes.

As with all schools, we are subject to regular inspections and ultimately the judgement of Ofsted will influence the future of our school and its ongoing success.

A significant focus of Ofsted inspections is the overall level of pupil attendance and absence rates in a school. Expectations for attendance have risen over time and this provides a challenging benchmark for schools to attain.

At Ighthenhill we are currently facing challenges in raising our overall school attendance to a level that we would deem to be satisfactory. Our attendance is being impacted by too many children having attendance rates that require improvement.

As a Leadership Team we wanted to share our concerns about attendance levels with our school community as I am sure we would all want to work together to maintain the effectiveness of Ighthenhill Primary School.

After half-term and into the next academic year we will be raising the profile of attendance by communicating the importance of positive attendance, rewarding good attendance (at least 96%), engaging with families where attendance is not good and where needed involving external agencies to challenge problematic attendance.

If you would like to discuss aspects of attendance with the Headteacher or Leadership team, please contact school for an appointment.

S Crosier

Headteacher