

"MOWDEN MATTERS"



Some pastoral issues to consider...

Sept '24

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Mowden! I hope this letter finds you well and that the children (and you!) have enjoyed the summer break

I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight some areas that could be of interest to you in the pastoral world.

As always, should you wish to discuss any issues, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mr P. Sturt

I want to highlight the significant impact reduced attendance can have on a child's academic performance.

Data from 2019 shows that 84% of Key Stage 2 pupils (Years 3 to 6) who had 100% attendance achieved the expected standard, compared to 40% of pupils who were persistently absent across the key stage.

Whilst we understand that children will become unwell, I would urge you to ask for support, should you be unsure if your child is too unwell to attend - we will always help!

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	1 week 3 days	81 lessons
90%	18 Days	3 weeks	162 lessons
85%	27 Days	4 weeks 3 days	243 lessons
80%	36 Days	6 weeks	324 lessons
75%	45 Days	7 weeks 3 days	405 lessons
70%	54 Days	9 weeks	486 lessons
65%	63 Days	10 weeks 3 days	567 lessons

"Under-11s we feel should not be given access to smartphones. They don't need the usage of a smartphone and, actually, a feature phone - or a dumb phone, as some people call them - is more suitable."



EE, the mobile network, has issued guidance for smartphones, stating that they feel children under 11 should not have smartphones. They even feel that 11-13 year olds need not have access to social media on smartphones.

This follows research by OFCOM showing that over half of under-13s were using social media, despite the rules in place!



New Guidance on Chromebooks:

Children in Year 3-5 to store chromebooks in class and generally not take home during term time. Year 6-8 will continue to have monitored access to Chromebooks and will continue to be protected by the GoGuardian system.