

King Edwin Primary School



Head Teacher Mr Callaghan-Wetton
Fourth Avenue, Edwinstowe, Notts, NG21 9NS
Tel: (01623) 822111 Fax: (01623) 825707
E Mail: office@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk
Website: www.kingedwin.notts.sch.uk

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Attendance at KEPS

The latest week shows attendance as 95.2% at KEPS

***'It is a parent's duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at a school where the child is a registered pupil and they are of compulsory school age'* (Department for Education)**

Dear Parents and KingEdwinner Children,

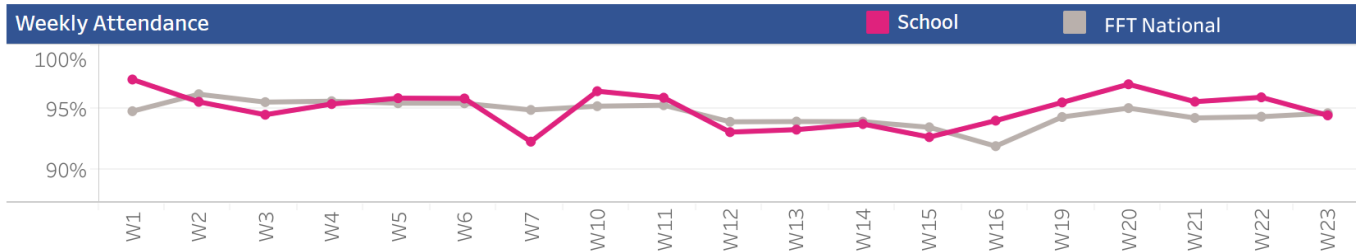
As we move into February and the days become longer, I am filled with great pride and optimism for the school year ahead. **Our school is absolutely buzzing with energy at the moment and it's safe to say that we have had a great start to 2025.** I've been chatting with the children recently and quite honestly, its been inspirational ... they really give me the belief that we can all achieve remarkable things this year.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

"From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child.
#AttendanceCounts"

The Importance of Attendance

One of the most crucial elements of a successful educational journey is **consistent attendance**. Every day at school is an opportunity for our children to learn, grow, and develop the skills they need to succeed in life. We are all aware that when children attend school regularly, they benefit from the full range of experiences, from engaging lessons to enriching extracurricular activities. At KEPS we offer so much and it really is important for our KingEdwinner to make the absolute most of this. The last 6 weeks have been great... lets keep this going!



High Standards and Expectations

At King Edwin Primary School, we hold ourselves to the highest standards. Every child has the potential to excel, and it is our mission to provide the support they need to reach their full potential. We expect our children to come to school **ready to learn, to be respectful and kind to one another, and to strive for excellence in all they do.**

The Role of Parents and Carers

Parents and carers, your role in this journey is invaluable. Your support and encouragement are key to your child's success. By ensuring that your child attends school regularly, you are setting them up for a bright future. We understand that life can be challenging, and there may be times when attendance is difficult. However, **we are here to support you and your child every step of the way.**

I am a parent too... and I know how difficult it is at times. Just like many of you, our family has a very hectic schedule. It's often gruelling and sometimes I wonder how on earth we manage to get through the week... but somehow we do. My children fully understand the importance of regular attendance and the value of education. They have days when they are extremely tired or less motivated, but they stay committed and I believe that this is setting them up for the challenges that they face ahead of them.



A Call to Action - Inspiration for the Future

This is where you come in... we need your help. The children at KEPS need your support! Let us all commit to making attendance a top priority this year. Together, we can work hand in hand to ensure that our children are present, engaged, and **ready to learn every day**.

INSET Days

Every year the school is allocated 5 days of training in the form of INSET days. I always try to place these days at times that might suit families. This is often at the end of a school year or the beginning ...so families may benefit from cheaper holidays. I also try to place them near bank holiday weekends so that a long weekend may work for families too. For all of these days, school staff must complete the training set aside. They are not simply days off for staff. Hopefully parents understand and appreciate how we try to strategically place these days to have a little impact as possible on all families.

The Power of Attendance: Statistics

Research shows that children who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve higher levels of academic success. For instance, students with consistent attendance are **20% more likely to perform well in reading and math**. Additionally, regular attendance in the early years of schooling can lead to better outcomes in later life. **Chronic absenteeism, on the other hand, is a strong predictor of lower educational performance and increased rates of negative educational, social and emotional outcomes.**

Tips for Encouraging Attendance

To help ensure your child attends school regularly, here are some practical tips:

Set a Routine: Establish consistent bedtime and morning routines ensuring children sleep well and wake up on time

Prepare the Night Before: Lay out clothes, pack bags, and prepare lunch the night before to reduce morning stress

Talk About School Positively: Encourage them to share school experiences and express enthusiasm about learning...**be that 'glass half full' kind of person!**

Address Concerns: If they are reluctant to attend, talk about concerns and work with teachers to address issues.

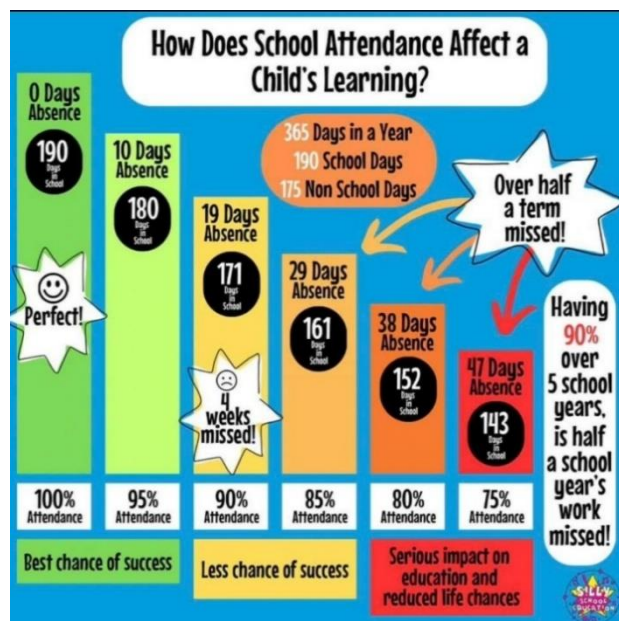
Stay Informed: Keep track of events, important dates, attendance policies and stay engaged with their education.

Reward Good Attendance: Celebrate and reward good attendance with praise... not prizes ...just pride and positivity

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our wonderful KingEdwinner community. Let us make this year the best one yet!

Kind regards,

Andy Callaghan-Wetton - Headteacher



Is your child too ill for school?

Useful guidance from the NHS

Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [health protection and managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on **the first day**. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason. If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

Feeling anxious or worried

It's normal for children to feel a little anxious sometimes. They may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can make a child's anxiety about going to school worse. It's good to talk about any worries they may have such as bullying, friendship problems, school work or sensory problems. You can also work with the school to find ways to help them.

If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, it might be good to talk to your GP or school nurse. [Find information and advice about how to help children with anxiety](#)

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a very high temperature, keeping them off school is recommended. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

Chickenpox

If your child has [chickenpox](#), keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Cold sores

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a [cold sore](#). Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.

Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have [conjunctivitis](#), unless they are feeling very unwell. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

Ear infection

If your child has an [ear infection](#) and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

Hand, foot and mouth disease

If your child has [hand, foot and mouth disease](#) but seems well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.



Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep a child off school if they have head lice. You can treat [head lice and nits](#) without seeing a GP.

Impetigo

If your child has [impetigo](#), they'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash hands regularly and not share things like towels and cups with other children at school.

Measles

If your child has [measles](#), they'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.

Ringworm

If your child has [ringworm](#), see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

Scarlet fever

If your child has [scarlet fever](#), they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have [slapped cheek syndrome](#) because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a [sore throat](#). But if they also have a very high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

Threadworms

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have [threadworms](#). Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with [diarrhoea or vomiting](#) should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

