



The Cathedral School of St Peter and St John RC Primary

Attendance and Truancy Policy During the Coronavirus Pandemic Policy

Coronavirus (COVID-19 update: Please note, this annex has been created in line with the current government guidance and will be updated in line with changes to government advice. Once pupils return to school full time, schools can refer to the provisions within our original policy.

Signed by:

_____ Headteacher

Date: _____

_____ Chair of governors

Date: _____

Review date _____

Attendance Changes During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

1. Taking attendance during partial school closure

- 1.1 During the partial school closure period, the school will adhere to the current government guidance by implementing the following measures:
- Attendance is non-compulsory during partial school closure and parents will not be fined for not bringing their child to school in line with the Coronavirus Act 2020 Disapplication of section 444(1) and (1A) of the Education Act 1996 (England) Notice 2020.
 - The school remains open for all vulnerable pupils and children of keyworkers who cannot receive sufficient care at home.
 - The school's attendance register will not be taken during partial school closure and the attendance code '#' will be used to denote planned full or partial school closure.
 - The school will complete the 'Educational setting status' form by midday each day of partial school closure to provide the DfE with accurate information on whether the school is open to eligible pupils and how many pupils it is caring for during this time.
 - If a child that is expected to be in school does not attend, the school will contact the child's parents or primary carers to ensure the safety and security of the child.
 - Under no circumstance will an individual enter the school grounds if they are displaying symptoms of coronavirus.
 - Parents will inform the school if their child (who is expected to attend school) is ill, and/or displaying symptoms of coronavirus, and is unable to attend school as a result.
 - If a pupil lives with an extremely clinically vulnerable person, they will only be able to attend school if they adhere to strict social distancing measures.

2. Taking attendance during phased reopening

- 2.1. When schools are advised to begin reopening to more pupils, the school will adhere to the current government guidance by implementing the following measures:
- Attendance is non-compulsory during phased reopening and parents will not be fined for not bringing their child to school in line with the Coronavirus Act 2020 Disapplication of section 444(1) and (1A) of the Education Act 1996 (England) Notice 2020.

- The school will resume its attendance register once phased reopening commences – the attendance register will be open for longer to account for staggered starts.
- In addition to the attendance register, the school will continue to submit the 'Educational setting status' form to the DfE.
- The school has completed a reopening plan and risk assessment which will enable it to reopen safely and adhere to strict social distancing and hygiene rules – this plan will have been made in collaboration with the local authority, parents, governors, staff and any other relevant party.
- The school respects the concerns of parents and will not pressure them into bringing their child to school if they feel the setting is unsafe, and will follow the school's plan to keep pupils safe in line with Public Health England's (PHE's) advice, offering reassurance where required.
- The school will work with the LA to ensure those who are expected to attend school are doing so, and any unexplained absences are dealt with using the correct channels.
- **Under no circumstance will an individual enter the school grounds if they are displaying symptoms of coronavirus.**
- Parents will inform the school if their child (who is expected to attend school) is ill, and/or displaying symptoms of coronavirus, and is unable to attend school as a result.
- If a pupil lives with an extremely clinically vulnerable person, they will only be able to attend school if they adhere to strict social distancing measures.