



EBRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

January 2025 Newsletter

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION-Punctuality/Attendance.



In most cases, our pupils come to school on time every day. In making sure they do, you are helping to establish good practice for the future. Patterns of lateness and absence that start in primary school can end up in truancy in post-primary school and "hard to break habits" for the work place. So please make sure you HELP your child by:

- Being firm about bedtimes.
- Encouraging them to prepare the night before, those items they will need for school the next day.
- Making sure they are in time to have breakfast and to leave the house promptly.

REMEMBER: SCHOOL COMMENCES AT 8.50 am. Pod doors are open from 8:40pm. If a parent needs to speak to a teacher, in the morning time as school is starting is not the appropriate time to do it. Please ensure you come earlier to school with your child if a message needs passed forward.

Please see % attendance figures. An attendance report will shortly be issued for each pupil.

100% Attendance		0 days missed	Excellent
95% Attendance		9 days of absence 1 week and 4 days of learning missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance		19 days of absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed	Poor
85% Attendance		28 days of absence 5 weeks and 3 days of learning missed	Very poor
80% Attendance		38 days of absence 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance		46 days of absence 9 weeks and 1 day of learning missed	Unacceptable

Our current overall attendance % for school sits at 94%. This sits between the 'poor' and 'satisfactory' categories. I would like the school % attendance to be sitting at 96% or above. Obviously, I am not encouraging you to send a sick child in to school, but I would very much discourage holidays during term time.

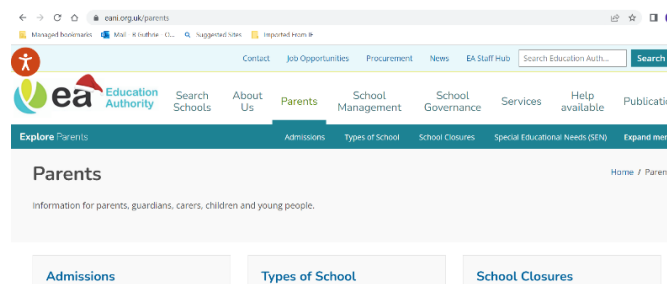
Any child who drops below 85% without just reason, the Education Welfare Officer will be contacted.

Application Portals-Nursery, Primary 1 and Year 8

Application portals are now open for all pupils to apply for a place in Nursery, Primary 1 (current Nursery) and soon will be for Year 8 (current P7)

The EA Admissions 'portal' can be found at www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions, and will open for applications for both Ebrington PS and Ebrington NU from **10th-24th January 2025**.

For parents new to this process, this means parents making the application directly to EA, without involvement of school. An account needs to be set up with the portal.



Could I also make clear that, even if your child has attended our Nursery Unit, you MUST make an application for the primary school. Please do not be confused by wording on the online portal about 'reception class'.

Post Primary Applications (our current Primary 7 pupils) for school year beginning September 2025 will open on Tuesday 28th January 2025 at 12 noon, closing on Thursday 20th February at 12 noon.

For our current Primary 6 pupils, we will be holding a post primary transfer meeting in school before the end of February. I know some parents are keen to understand the process, particularly those who haven't been through it before. It is most beneficial to have our current P7 pupils through the application process, as more accurate information should be available at the later stage.

Parent-Teacher interviews

A letter with more detailed information has been issued home last week regarding parent interviews for our pupils, coming up in the next few weeks. Please complete the appropriate time slots that would suit you and return to the teacher, once received.



Please remember, school will close at 1:15pm on both Tuesday 28th January and Tuesday 4th February, to assist with these parent interviews. There will be no form of after school available on these days.

Apologies for the inconvenience this may cause.

Regular hair checks

I would encourage parents to carry out regular hair checks for 'visitors'. Often, on return to school after a break, there may be a good chance of these visitors appearing. They can be removed by wet combing with a special fine-toothed comb. You should try this method first:

- wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)
- comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends

Car Park

I wish to pass on a huge THANK YOU to so many of you who have followed our guidance with regards to parking and drop off. I know it places a small additional pressure of time in the morning for some families, but it has been fantastic to see the vast majority of parents keeping the lower area free for drop offs, pedestrians, staff cars, taxis and those with mobility issues who have previously contacted school-both in the morning and afternoon. Please continue to follow this.



****REMINDER****

NO parent cars should be driving down the side of school towards the Nursery, as this is an exit for pupils at various points of the school day.

Last week, we had two near misses of pupils almost being knocked down due to cars driving down this road. Parents are well informed of the rules. Please make sure to pass this information on to others who might be picking your child up from school.

NO cars should be parked on the double yellow lines within the school site.