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Monday, 16 January 2023

Re: School Attendance

Dear Parents,

School Attendance is taken daily through Aladdin in each child's class. We complete returns to TÚSLA in December and June each year. We are obliged to submit returns on those absent over 20 days or those for whom we have a concern on attendance and behaviour.

The impact of this return is generally minimal with parents advised to ensure their children attend school and if there is a reason for an absence the school would be informed. Cooperating with the school is highly valued.

Our local Education Welfare Officer (EWO) attends the school and we have discussed issues in relation to any pupil the school would have concerns about.

Genuine absences, such as illness and holidays are recognised as such.

The Education Welfare Officer's main priority is 'Unexplained' absences and child welfare.

Please ensure that all absences are explained to the school, the class teacher in the first instance through Aladdin Connect, by a note or by a call to the school (number above).

The key factors are:

- The aim for the Strategy on Attendance is that children get the best experience of education they can from school and maximise learning time.
- A letter from the EWO in itself is not of concern as they are evidence of communication. So also, is 'Explained Absences' and are recognised and appreciated by the school.
- Use Aladdin Connect to communicate reason for absences. If you have a problem logging on call to the office and check that the access code you are given has worked.

We ask that you ensure as full an attendance as possible for the school year and, as stated, written communication would explain any absences.

Mise le meas,

Brendan Horan, Principal.