



Sapperton Church of England Primary School
Sapperton, nr. Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6LQ

20th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Sapperton, we believe that every day counts. Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children achieve their full potential, both academically and socially. Children who attend school consistently are more likely to make good progress in their learning, develop strong friendships, build confidence and feel fully connected to school life.

Research from the Department for Education (DfE) shows a clear link between attendance and educational outcomes. National data demonstrates that pupils with attendance of 95% or above achieve significantly better results than those with lower attendance. While 95% may sound high, it actually means a child misses around 10 school days per year – the equivalent of two weeks of learning. If attendance falls to 90%, a child misses approximately 19 days of education each year, which amounts to nearly four weeks of lost learning time.

For children in primary school, these absences can have a particularly significant impact. Learning builds day by day, and missing key lessons can make it harder for children to keep up with new concepts in reading, writing and mathematics. Regular attendance also helps children develop important routines, resilience and a positive attitude towards learning.

We understand that children will occasionally be absent due to illness that cannot be managed at school, and we will always support families when this happens. However, we ask parents to avoid taking holidays during term time and to ensure that children attend school every day unless they are genuinely too unwell to do so.

As part of our commitment to promoting excellent attendance, we must ensure that we comply with the guidance set by both the Local Authority and the Department for Education. Therefore, from next academic year, unauthorised absences will be managed in line with Local Authority policy, which includes the use of Fixed Penalty Notices where appropriate.

This means that unauthorised term-time holidays and certain other avoidable absences may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued. This is not a decision taken lightly, but a statutory measure intended to help ensure that all children receive the education to which they are entitled.

For further information, please visit the Government guidance on school attendance and legal action: [School attendance and absence: legal action to enforce school attendance](#)

Our aim at Sapperton is always to work positively and collaboratively with families to promote good attendance. If you are experiencing difficulties that are affecting your child's attendance, or if you are finding it challenging to get your child into school for any reason, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are committed to providing a nurturing environment that inspires children to succeed, and this is best achieved when children attend school regularly.

Email: admin@sapperton.gloucs.sch.uk

Website: www.sappertonschool.org

To nurture faith; to inspire success



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Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that every child has the best possible opportunity to learn, flourish and succeed at Sapperton.

Yours sincerely,

Meg Crampton

Helen Cooper

Head of School

Executive Headteacher