

Attendance Newsletter

April 2026



Summer time

How being in school helps children keep their friendships strong

Children build friendships through lots of small, everyday moments — chatting as they hang up their coat, joining in a game at playtime, working with a partner, or sharing a joke at lunchtime. When they're in school regularly, these moments stack up and help them feel part of things.

What happens when children miss days

Missing school doesn't just mean missing lessons. It can mean:

- Not knowing the game everyone played yesterday.
- Feeling unsure about what friends talked about.
- Worrying that groups have moved on without them.
- Finding it harder to join in again the next day
- These feelings are completely normal for children, and they can make coming back feel a bit harder, especially if absences start to add up.

Why this matters for confidence and wellbeing

Friendships help children feel settled, safe, and ready to learn. When they feel connected to their classmates:

- They join in more confidently.
- They cope better with challenges.
- They feel happier coming into school each morning.
- Regular attendance gives children the steady rhythm they need to build and keep those friendships.

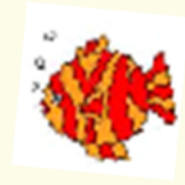
Every day in school gives children a chance to play, laugh, learn and stay connected with their friends. Even a few days away can make them feel a little out of the loop.

If mornings are tricky or you're worried about your child's friendships, please get in touch, we're here to help. Together we can help your child feel confident, included and part of their friendship group.

As always, thank you to our families for continuing to work with us to ensure that all children have the best possible attendance

Attendance Newsletter

April 2026



Support from school

Where possible school will offer support to you and your child around attendance difficulties. This is through our multi-tiered approach to support.

PHONE CALLS FROM SCHOOL

Class teachers, Mrs. Butterworth, Mrs. Deighton and Mrs. Lowery may call you or request a meeting with you to talk about your child's attendance and any difficulties you or your child may be facing. These are supportive and we encourage our families to engage with us in this way so that your child can have the best possible attendance.

Feel free to contact school at any time to discuss any concerns you may have.

Punctuality reminder

8.35: Gates open (children are parents' responsibility)

8.40: Key stage 1 door opens.

8.45: School day begins-Key stage 2 children come into school. Key stage 1 classroom doors close. ***

8.55: Gates close. Pupils are now late and must be signed in at the office by an adult with a valid reason given.

*** Although children are not classed as late until 8:55am, they are missing the start of the school day which includes feedback on the previous day's learning, wellbeing check in, basic skills such as handwriting lessons or 1:1 reading.

#MISS SCHOOL #MISS OUT

Some of the things our children say they would have missed out on if they were absent from school...

- **New toys during OPAL playtimes**
- **SATs week**
- **Picnic and play at Rowntrees Park**
- **Visit to Fulford School**
- **Cultural Carnival**
- **Visit to Flood Barrier**
-

A gentle reminder about term time holidays
Term time holidays are not authorised and we strongly advise against taking a holiday during term time. Children miss vital learning across a range of subjects. Please be aware of the City of York Penalty information on our website.

Contact Information:

Phone: 01904 555335

Email:

admin@fishergateschool.com

