



Additions to the Attendance Policy During the Corona Virus (COVID- 19) Pandemic

Procedure Originator:	CLA
Approved By:	MBO
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Audience:	Parents and students

Attendance During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

These additions are to be read in conjunction with the Academy's Attendance and Punctuality Policy.

From September 2020, all students are required to attend school. As such, the arrangements set out in the main body of the Academy's Attendance and Punctuality Policy will be adhered to. This appendix has been developed in line with the latest government guidance to set out the additional measures that have been put in place to support students' attendance at The Orme Academy.

The Academy will have due regard for the DfE's 'Recording attendance during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak' guidance when recording attendance during the pandemic.

1. Attendance expectations from September

- 1.1 As of September 2020, attendance is mandatory for all students.
- 1.2 From September, the usual rules on Academy attendance (as set out in the Academy's Attendance and Punctuality Policy) apply, including:
 - Parents' duty to ensure that their child attends school regularly.
 - The Academy's responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence, in line with the procedures in the Academy's Attendance and Punctuality Policy.
 - The availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with the LA's code of conduct.

2. Shielding or self-isolating students

- 2.1 Shielding advice for all adults and children paused on 1 August. This means that students who were shielding can return to school, as can students who have family members who were shielding.
- 2.2 Students who are no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional should discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school. Parents should inform the Academy of any particular measures that need to be in place to ensure their child can return to school safely.
- 2.3 The Academy understands that there will be occasions where some students may not be able to attend school due to coronavirus, including for the following reasons:
 - They are self-isolating and have symptoms of coronavirus or a positive test result themselves, or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus.
 - Rates of coronavirus in the local area have risen and certain individuals are asked to temporarily shield.
- 2.4 Absences relating to students following clinical and/or public health advice will not be penalised.
- 2.5 Where a student is unable to attend school because they are complying with clinical and/or public health advice, they will be immediately offered access to remote learning.

3. Reluctance to return to school

- 3.1 Parents will be advised to contact the Academy if they have concerns about their child returning to school.
- 3.2 If a parent raises a concern, a relevant staff member will hold a discussion with the parent to discuss their concerns and provide reassurance on the measures that are in place to reduce risk in the Academy.

4. Monitoring attendance

- 4.1 Mrs L Downs, Attendance officer, will monitor the Academy's attendance rates once the Academy is open to all students in September.
- 4.2 Any trends in non-attendance will be identified (e.g. due to anxiety) and measures will be put in place to reengage affected students with the Academy.