

## Attendance Procedure from September 2020

We are very much looking forward to all children returning to school in September 2020. The vast majority of children will be excited and motivated for their return. We do however appreciate that some children will be extremely anxious and we will do all we can to reassure and support children as they adjust to being in school full-time.

The Department for Education have stated clearly:

***School attendance is mandatory from the beginning of the Autumn Term.***

And

***Schools should be clear with parents that pupils of compulsory school age must be in school unless a statutory reason applies (for example, the pupil has been granted a leave of absence, is unable to attend because of sickness, is absent for a necessary religious observance etc).***

They have however stated:

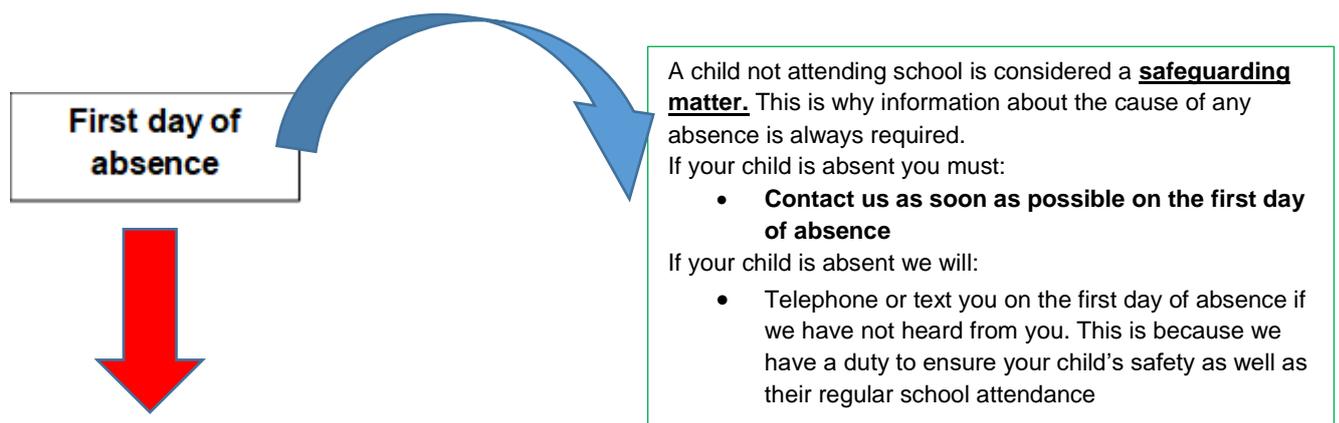
***Where children are not able to attend school as parents are following clinical and/or public health advice, absence will not be penalised. It is expected that where a child is absent due to displaying Covid-19 symptoms that they will be tested and the results shared with school. Absence due to shielding will only be authorised if supported by written evidence from a healthcare professional.***

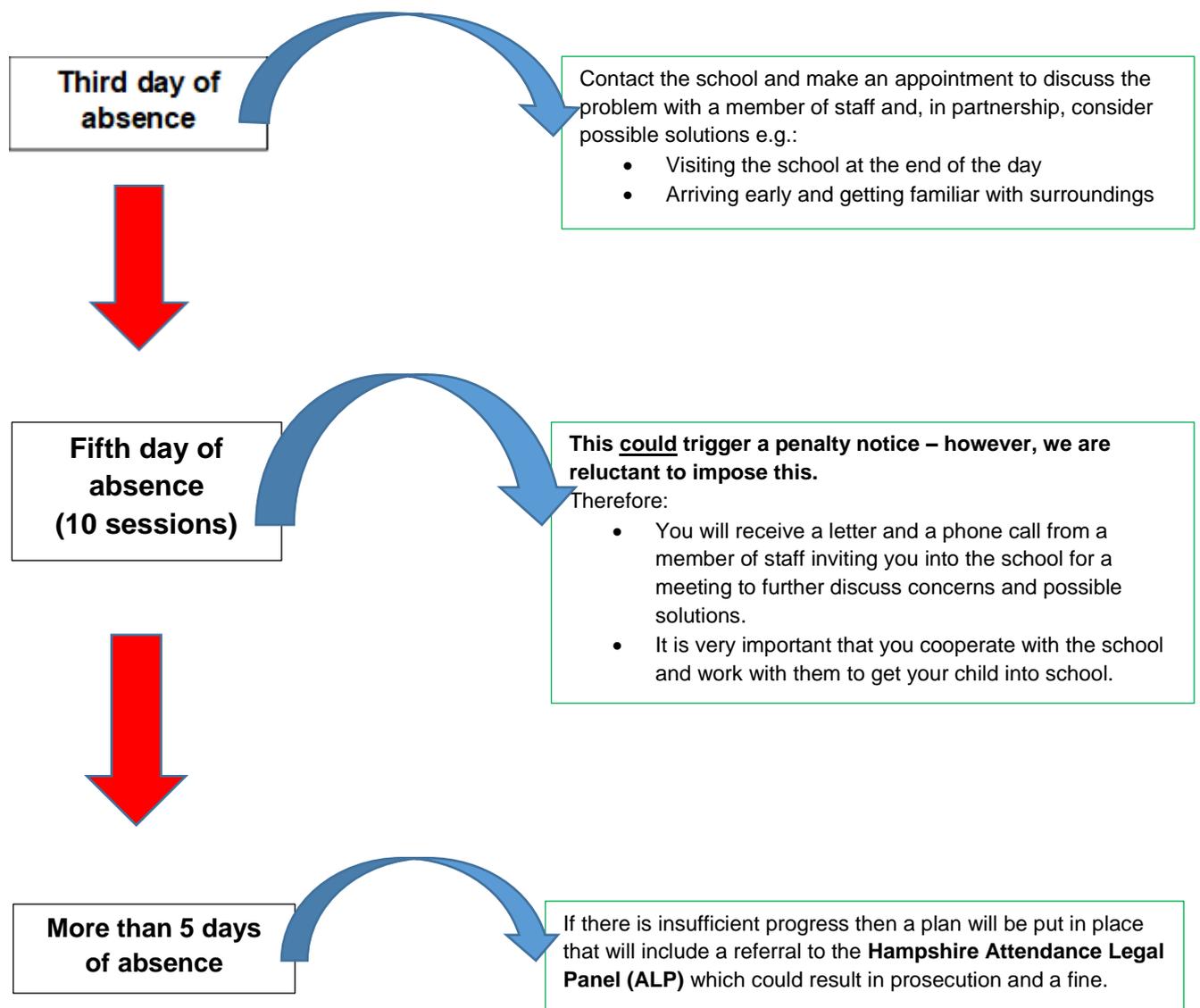
We want to ensure children are regularly attending school so that they can:

- catch up on missed education
- make progress and
- promote their wellbeing and wider development.

**Communication is so important. It is essential that parents and carers communicate with the school so solutions can be found to any difficulties.**

The following is intended to support parents and carers as to how school will respond if there are concerns about absence due to anxiety, or if the school has concerns over non-attendance. This is in conjunction with the Arnewood Pyramid of Schools Attendance Policy.





**Please remember:**

- **We want to work in partnership with you.**
- **Research has consistently shown the detrimental, life-long impact on children of poor attendance at school.**
- **Communication is essential if we are to find solutions.**