St George's
C of E School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

At St George's CE Primary we are committed to providing every child with the very best education and ensuring they have every opportunity to succeed. To support this, we are writing to remind families about the importance of regular school attendance and to clarify our approach to term-time holidays.

We follow the guidance set out by both the Local Authority and the Department for Education, which makes it clear that children should attend school every day that it is open unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Every school day matters. Learning is carefully planned so that lessons build upon previous knowledge and skills. When children miss school, even for a short period, they can miss important teaching, class discussions, practical activities and opportunities to develop friendships and confidence. It can also be challenging for them to catch up on work that has been missed, which may impact their progress over time.

Whilst we appreciate that family time is important and that holiday costs can sometimes influence decisions about travel, we must emphasise that holidays should be taken during the school holiday periods wherever possible. Absence during term time disrupts learning and can affect both academic achievement and wellbeing.

For this reason, requests for leave of absence during term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, and any unauthorised absence for a family holiday may result in a Penalty Notice (fine) being issued in line with Local Authority procedures.

Our aim is not to penalise families but to work together to ensure every child benefits from the full range of learning opportunities available to them. Good attendance habits established during primary school help children develop responsibility, resilience and routines that will support them throughout their education and beyond.

We appreciate the support that the vast majority of our families already provide in ensuring children attend regularly and arrive at school on time each day. By working together, we can give every child the best possible chance to thrive and achieve their full potential.

If you have any questions about attendance or would like support in improving your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

J. Young

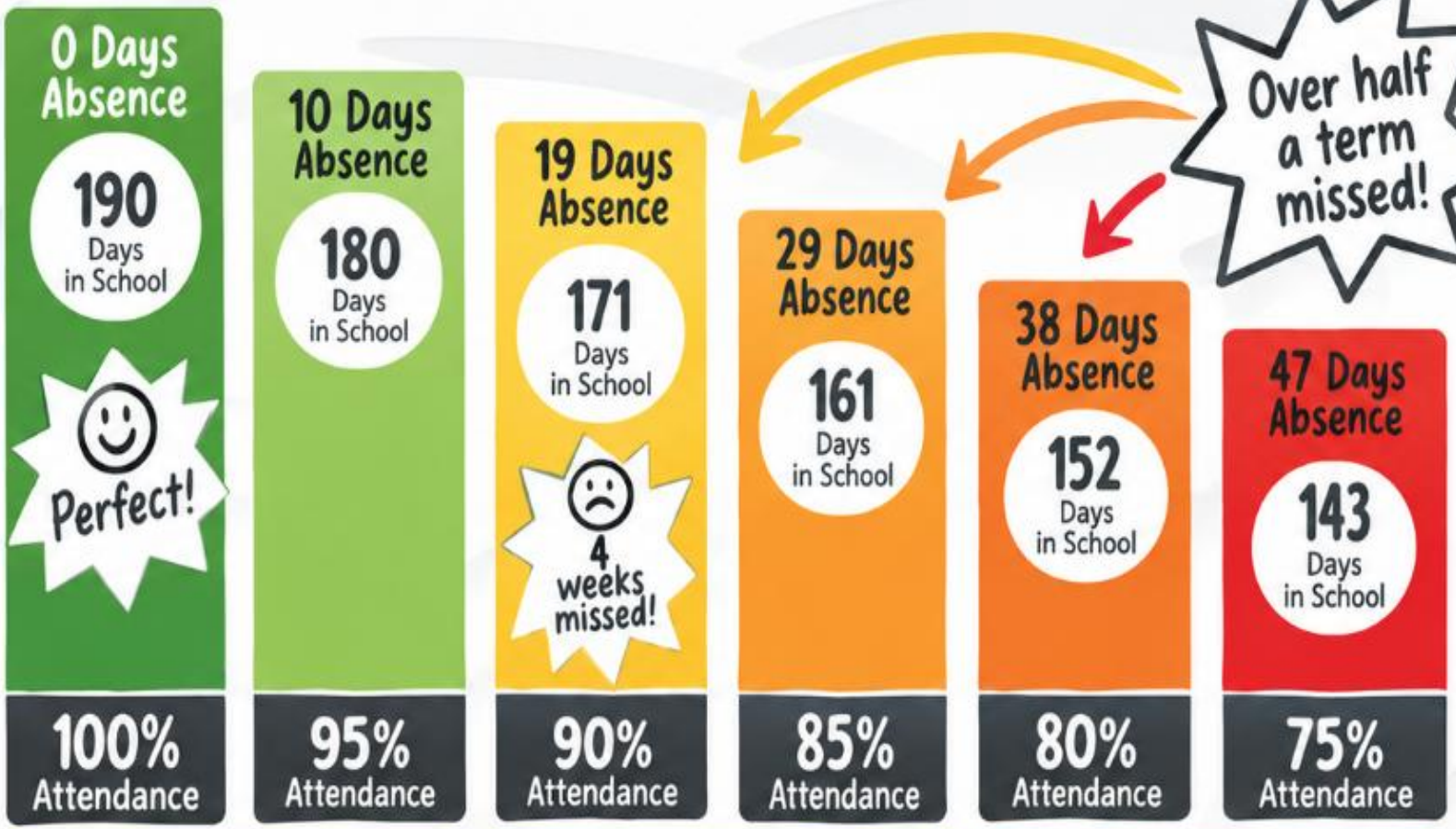
Mr J Young

Headteacher

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WESTHOUGHTON

How Does School Attendance Affect a Child's Learning?

365 Days in a Year
190 School Days
175 Non School Days



Best chance of success

Less chance of success

Serious impact on education and reduced life chances

Having 90% over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed.

A 2 week holiday in term time, means that the highest attendance a child can achieve is 94.7%.

Compassion | Love | Truthfulness | Thankfulness | Forgiveness | Hope

Jesus colours our love, our life, our learning