

Statement of Strategy for School Attendance

Name of school	Saint Patrick's NS
Address	Diswellstown Dublin 15
Roll Number	20130B
The school's vision and values in relation to attendance	In Saint Patrick's NS we believe that children can learn most effectively if they attend school regularly and arrive punctually.
The school's high expectations around attendance	We have high expectations for students' attendance, participation and learning in Saint Patrick's N.S. Aims of this Statement of Strategy: 1. To raise awareness of the importance of regular school attendance. 2. To ensure compliance with the requirements of relevant legislation.
How attendance will be monitored	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A register of all pupils who are admitted to the school is maintained on the Primary Online Database.(POD) • Individual attendance is recorded daily on the school administration system (Aladdin).Reasons for absences are noted. • On return from absence, parents are requested to provide a note in the school journal stating reason for absence from school. In the case of pupils in infants, who do not have journals, parents inform the teacher. • Quarterly and annual returns are forwarded to Tusla as required. • Pupils arriving late to school must be signed-in at the administration office. • Punctuality is monitored by class teachers and principal. When attendance and/or punctuality is/ are poor, a meeting with parent is requested.

<p>Summary of the main elements of the school's approach to attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target setting and targets • The whole-school approach • Promoting good attendance • Responding to poor attendance 	<p>Our annual attendance in the school year 2017- 18 was 95.1%. We hope to maintain or increase this high level in 2018/19</p> <p>In the 2017-18 school year, 36 pupils missed 20 days or more. We aim to reduce this to 30 pupils or fewer.</p> <p>We plan to raise awareness among all members of the school community about school days lost due to holidaying during term time. (June attendance 92.3%) The importance of attendance and punctuality is raised at school assemblies.</p> <p>The 100th School Day is celebrated annually. Pupils with 96% + attendance on this day are acknowledged.</p> <p>We inform parents when their child has missed 20 days. The school, insofar as is practical, responds to underlying reasons for non-attendance e.g. sickness, bullying etc. Requesting support from outside agencies such as NEPS, NCSE, Túsla as applicable.</p>
<p>School roles in relation to attendance</p>	<p><u>Board of Management</u> The Board of Management has overall responsibility for the preparation, implementation and review of this strategy statement.</p> <p><u>The Principal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Principal ensures that appropriate registers and records are maintained. • Carries out other duties with regard to attendance as outlined in this statement. <p><u>Class Teachers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure attendance data is recorded daily and accurately on Aladdin • Ensure parents receive an email from the school, detailing absences from school, once a child has missed 20 days. • May make with the Education Welfare Officer • Set high expectations for punctuality and attendance in their classrooms and lead by example. • Alert the school principal if there are concerns about student absences.

Partnership arrangements	<p>The Board of Management acknowledges the important role of parents/guardians/carers in the attendance of their children at school. Parents/Guardians/Carers are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set high standards for their child(ren) in relation to attendance and punctuality • Engage with the school if there is a problem about their child's attendance and support strategies to address the problem • Ensure that their child regularly attends and arrives at school on time. • Avoid taking their child out of class unless there is a bona fide reason • Think seriously about taking their child on holidays during term time.
How the Statement of Strategy will be monitored	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance figures will be analysed annually and compared with attendance of previous school years • The number of pupils referred to the Education Welfare Officer will be monitored and compared to previous years • Attendance for individual pupils with poor attendance will be monitored and compared to previous years. • The number of absences due to vacation will be reviewed annually. • This strategy will be reviewed and updated annually
Review process and date for review	September 2019
Date the Statement of Strategy was approved by the Board of Management	07/ 11/ 2018
Date the Statement of Strategy submitted to Tusla	08/11/2018