



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

Statement of Strategy for School Attendance

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| Name of school | Bishop Galvin National School |
| Address | Orwell Park, Templeogue, Dublin 6W |
| Roll Number | 19494J |
| The school's vision and values in relation to attendance | The vision for Bishop Galvin NS is to promote the full and harmonious development of all pupils: cognitive, intellectual, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual. It aims to promote inclusive and positive school experiences with high attendance levels. The school's vision is to ensure that all pupils experience success. Bishop Galvin NS aims to work together with parents and guardians to foster positive attitudes to regular school attendance and learning. |
| The school's high expectations around attendance | Bishop Galvin NS recognises that consistent attendance is a vital element in education. Targeting and maintaining good attendance is very important in our school community and we endeavour to support and foster good attendance patterns when pupils start with us in 3 rd class. The school will work closely with all partners to ensure that the attendance rate within the school will be maintained at above 95% every year. The school ensures that school staff and families are informed and assisted in relation to attendance matters. |
| How attendance will be monitored | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Daily record of attendance is recorded on Aladdin system by each teacher. -Record of late arrivals and early removal and reasons are noted on Aladdin system. -Teachers will discuss concerns re. attendance at parent teacher meetings and will alert Deputy Principal about concerns. -Teachers will monitor children who may be at risk of poor attendance. -Principal will inform the Board of Management about overall attendance on a regular basis. -Principal will inform parents, by letter, when absences of 15 days or over accrue. -Principal will inform parents & NEWB, when absences of 20 days accrue. -Deputy Principal will complete on-line report forms with TUSLA and will complete annual |

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| | <p>attendance report.</p> <p>-Principal and Deputy Principal will monitor children who regularly miss more than 10 days in a school year.</p> |
| <p>Summary of the main elements of the school's approach to attendance:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Target setting and targets 2. The whole-school approach 3. Promoting good attendance 4. Responding to poor attendance | <p>Targets:</p> <p>-To maintain and improve attendance of 95% absenteeism in 2018.</p> <p>-To reduce the average number of children (6) who are absent for more than 20 days.</p> <p>Whole-School Approach:</p> <p>-Staff and Board of Management will collaborate to implement this policy. All teachers will promote and encourage excellent attendance.</p> <p>-Teachers will keep accurate records and notify Deputy Principal and Principal of children at risk.</p> <p>Promoting Good Attendance:</p> <p>-The school curriculum, insofar as is practicable, will be inclusive and relevant to the needs of the individual child to facilitate each pupil to experience success. Inclusive Support for pupils who have special educational needs is in accordance with NCSE and DES guidelines.</p> <p>-As part of the school's programme for Well-being and within the Code of Behaviour, Bishop Galvin NS will promote development of self-esteem in its pupils</p> <p>-Attendance rates of pupils will be monitored by the class teacher in the first instance and the class teacher will notify the Deputy Principal of any concerns regarding the attendance of any pupil.</p> <p>-The school will use regular newsletters to promote attendance and punctuality.</p> <p>-The Principal will assess each case individually and contact parent/guardian, if necessary.</p> <p>-The class teacher will keep a daily record of attendance on Aladdin.</p> <p>-The class teacher will encourage pupils to attend regularly and punctually.</p> <p>-The class teacher will ensure that contact is made with parents/guardians in instances where absences are not explained. Communication is in the Homework Journal.</p> <p>-Attendance figures are monitored daily by the Deputy Principal on Aladdin.</p> <p>-The Deputy Principal will also bring details of continued absences and patterns of absences to the attention of the class teachers as necessary.</p> <p>-The Principal will promote the</p> |

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| | <p>importance of good school attendance among pupils, parents and staff.</p> <p>-The Principal will inform the TUSLA:</p> <p><i>o When a pupil has been missing for twenty or more days during the course of the school year.</i></p> <p><i>o When a pupil has been suspended from school more than once under the Code of Behaviour.</i></p> <p>-Attendance is recorded on school reports.</p> <p>-Parental involvement is encouraged in the Parents' Association and in activities within the school.</p> <p>Responding to Poor Attendance</p> <p>-On transfer to Bishop Galvin NS attendance records will be sought from previous schools.</p> <p>-Class teachers will inform the Deputy Principal of any concerns s/he may have regarding the attendance of any pupil.</p> <p>-Contact between school and parent/guardian to express concern re attendance, late arrival or early removal e.g. phone call, letter, discuss at parent teacher meeting.</p> <p>-Specific meeting in school with parent/guardian to identify issues and discuss possible interventions.</p> |
| School roles in relation to attendance | <p>The Board of Management, teachers and whole school community will be mindful at all times of:</p> <p>- The identification of aspects of the school and/or of the teaching and learning that may contribute to issues relating to school attendance on the part of certain students.</p> <p>-The identification of strategies for the removal of those aspects in so far as they are not necessary or expedient for the proper and effective running of the school having regard, in particular, to the educational needs of students.</p> <p>-The identification of strategies that will encourage more regular attendance at school on the part of such students.</p> <p>-The need to review this strategy into the future to accommodate the changing needs of the school and of its population.</p> |
| Partnership arrangements (parents, students, other schools, youth and community groups) | <p>Closer home/school relations will be fostered through:</p> <p>-Parent/Teacher meetings</p> <p>-Attendance at school events (e.g., Concerts, Masses, Graduation etc.).</p> <p>-Involvement in Paired Reading</p> <p>- Regular newsletters to families.</p> |

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| | <p>Parents can promote attendance by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensuring regular and punctual school attendance. -Notifying the school if their children cannot attend for any reason. -Discussing planned absences with the school. -Refraining from taking holidays during school time -Informing the school in writing of the reasons for absence from school. - Contacting the school immediately, if they have concerns about absence or other related school matters. <p>Students can promote attendance by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Participating in school activities, such as Cumann na mBunscol, cross country, etc. -Participating in and engaging with the 'Student Council'. -Engaging with the 'Friends for Life' and 'Weaving Well-being' Programme. |
| How the Statement of Strategy will be monitored | BGNS will monitor the strategy by discussing attendance at meetings with all staff. |
| Review process and date for review | The strategy will be reviewed annually in the first term of the school year |
| Date the Statement of Strategy was approved by the Board of Management | This strategy was reviewed by the Board of Management, and approved on 16 th April 2018. |
| Date the Statement of Strategy submitted to Tusla | 19 th April 2018 |