

Our ref: CS/AD/Attendance Concern letter Feb 2025

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer



**Dame Elizabeth  
Cadbury School**  
www.decschool.co.uk

## Addressing School Attendance Concerns and Support for Families

I am writing to you regarding an important national concern: school attendance. Over the past two years, the government has taken significant steps to address the rising issue of pupil absence, reinforcing the expectation that all pupils should attend school regularly. As a school, we fully support this initiative and are committed to ensuring that every child receives the education they deserve.

As part of this national drive, all schools are required to escalate attendance concerns when pupils are missing significant time from school, either due to unauthorised absences or without a valid reason. In such cases, we must refer families to the local authority's Education Legal Intervention Team, which has the authority to take legal action to address the matter.

To ensure transparency, we are required to share with our school community the actions taken by the Education Legal Intervention Team for the schools within our Hub (Dame Elizabeth Cadbury and Turves Green Boys' School). Since September 2023, the following actions have been implemented:

### Legal Actions Taken:

- Family 1: **£1,009.00** fine per parent due to escalation = **£2,018.00** total per family
- Family 2: **£1,000.00** fine per parent due to escalation = **£2,000.00** total per family
- Family 3: **£741.00** fine per parent due to escalation = **£1,482.00** total per family
- Family 4: **£701.00** fine per parent due to escalation = **£1,402.00** total per family
- Family 5: **£701.00** fine per parent due to escalation = **£1,402.00** total per family
- Family 6: **£701.00** fine per parent due to escalation = **£1,402.00** total per family
- Family 7: **£616.00** fine per parent due to escalation = **£1,232.00** total per family
- Family 8: **£290.00** fine per parent due to escalation = **£580.00** total per family
- A total of 45 families have received a **£120.00** fine per parent = **£240.00** total per family

Legal action is taken when a pupil has prolonged absences, accumulates a high number of unauthorised absences, or is absent without a valid reason. To support families in making informed decisions regarding their child's attendance, we encourage you to refer to the attached document:

### Is My Child Too Ill for School?

Link: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school>



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Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School



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## Support for Families:

We understand that there may be underlying reasons affecting school attendance, and we are committed to working with families to remove barriers to learning. We have various support services available at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School, including:

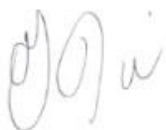
- **Attendance Officer**
- **School Social Worker**
- **Mental Health Practitioner**
- **Success Centre Manager**

If you need assistance or wish to discuss your child's attendance further, please do not hesitate to contact your child's **Head of House** or our **Attendance Officer**:

- **Durham House** – Ms Faulkner: [cfaulkner@decschool.co.uk](mailto:cfaulkner@decschool.co.uk)
- **Exeter House** – Ms Britt: [sbritt@decschool.co.uk](mailto:sbritt@decschool.co.uk)
- **Warwick House** – Mr Canning-England: [dcanningengland@decschool.co.uk](mailto:dcanningengland@decschool.co.uk)
- **York House** – Mr Smith: [csmith@decschool.co.uk](mailto:csmith@decschool.co.uk)
- **Attendance Officer** – Ms McManus: [jmcmamus@decschool.co.uk](mailto:jmcmamus@decschool.co.uk)

We appreciate your cooperation with this important matter. At Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School, we are dedicated to working in partnership with families to support every pupil in reaching their full potential.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Till  
Headteacher



Mr C Seager  
Head of School

