



Bridlewood Primary School
Chartwell Road
Swindon
SN25 2EX
Tel: 01793 706830
Fax: 01793 705643
email: admin@bridlewood.swindon.sch.uk
website: www.bridlewoodprimaryschool.org.uk
Headteacher: Ms Jo Garton

A place for learning, caring, sharing and growing together.

15th November 2011

Dear Parents

As you know in our last Ofsted inspection we were awarded a satisfactory judgement. The test results from 2007 meant that we could not get a better judgement and we were very disappointed. Since then we have worked very hard to improve standards of teaching and learning and the local authority judgement is now that overall we are a good school. This year we will have another Ofsted inspection and the evidence is that we should receive a good grading.

However, there is one area that we remain only satisfactory. That area is attendance. On the back of this letter is a leaflet produced by the education welfare service, which shows the effect of poor attendance on your child's learning. At the recent parent consultation evening you will have received a report card with your child's current attendance, so that you can compare it to the figures on the back of this letter.

If your child's attendance is poor, the biggest loser is your child. It may seem like, "just a few days," but it could be the difference between understanding a key concept, for example in maths.

The governing body of the school has to update policies on a regular basis and will shortly be looking at an attendance policy which would allow us to fine families who take unauthorised absences. This is a policy that many local schools have implemented and one that the government encourage.

It is with reluctance that we are considering this option, but although we have monitored attendance on a weekly basis, sent letters and spoken to families with poor attendance, we have been unable to raise attendance.

Everyone understands that sometimes children are ill, but please let us know, because we may be able to help with a referral to the school nurse.

I know that the majority of children in our school have good attendance and I apologize for those who may feel they are being unnecessarily nagged, but I have to bring the issue of attendance to your attention. It would be a shame if our school were judged harshly because attendance brought down a whole school judgement.

Thank you for your support and please do speak to me about this if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

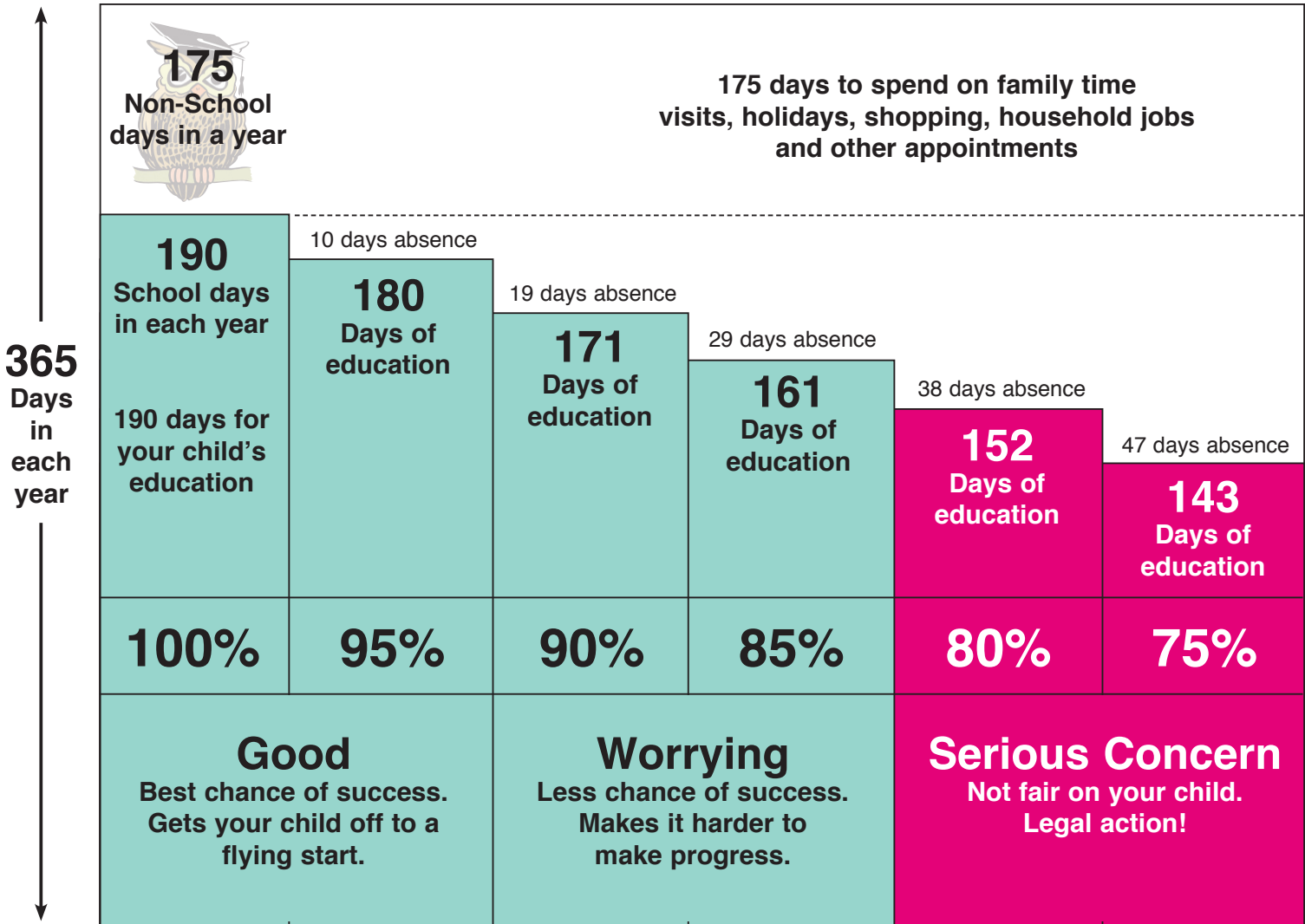
Ms. J Garton



Every school day counts!



- Days off school add up to lost learning.
- Please don't let your children miss out on the education they deserve.
- Every school day counts.



If you are worried about your child's attendance please talk to your school about it or contact the Education Welfare Service on 01793 465797

www.swindon.gov.uk