

Attendance Registration Policy

Introduction

This policy has been developed in accordance with the Independent School Standards Regulations (2014) and the statutory guidance established in Working Together to Improve School Attendance (August 2024) and should be read in conjunction with:

Missing Children Policy

Safeguarding Policy

Student Visa and Guardianship Procedures

The expectation is that in all but exceptional circumstances, pupils will be present throughout term time.

This policy is in place to ensure to ensure the wellbeing of pupils and that pupils are engaged with the school's curriculum. For pupils to benefit fully from the opportunities presented to them and to make excellent progress both socially and academically, full attendance is expected throughout the year.

The aim of this policy is to provide clear, consistent and compliant attendance procedures that not only promote good attendance but can identify patterns of non-attendance and address situations where pupils go missing from education.

For clarification, in accordance with the Independent School Standards Regulations (2014) and DfE guidance Working Together to Improve School Attendance (2024), only day pupils of compulsory school age are statutorily required to have their attendance recorded in the Attendance Register at the start of each morning and afternoon session.

Radley College is a full boarding school.

However, the school has duty of care for our pupils and we record pupil's attendance each morning and evening with additional consideration that all lessons and activities are considered points of registration.

The College is fully committed to ensuring that the application of this policy is in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Responsibilities

Deputy Head (Pastoral)

The Deputy Head (Pastoral) is the nominated Senior Attendance Champion (SAC) with responsibility for the following:

- Recognise the importance of school attendance and promote it across the school's ethos and policies.
- Ensure school leaders fulfil expectations and statutory duties.
- Regularly review attendance data, discuss, and challenge trends, and help school leaders focus improvement efforts on the individual pupils or cohorts who need it most.
- Ensure school staff receive adequate training on attendance.

In ensuring these statutory expectations are met, the Deputy Head (Pastoral) works in close conjunction with the College Council (governing body), reporting to them regularly on issues and updates relating to school attendance.

The Tutor / Social Team

It is the responsibility of The Tutor / Social Team to take a registration twice a day, the results of which are recorded on iSAMS.

The exact arrangements can be determined by individual Tutors but it should include:

- A morning point of registration in Social before period 1 (Mo-Sa).
- An evening point of registration in Social (every day)

There is no formalised morning registration for Sunday but Tutors check attendance at Chapel.

Tutors should put up notices so that students know when and where to register.

The DfE following codes are used:



The purpose of the registration is twofold:

- To ensure that the pupils' whereabouts is known. If it is not then the <u>Missing Children Policy</u> comes into effect.
- To give us data on pupils' access to education.

The music departments will share its register of boys who are doing early **morning music practices** with Tutors.

Strength and conditioning sessions, beagles etc should be less of an issue than music because boys go back to Social before Period 1 to change.

Where appropriate, registration may be delegated to parents when a student is the son/daughter of a member of staff who lives on site.

The Tutors have responsibility to monitor registration and to escalate any concerns to the Deputy Head (Pastoral) who has overall responsibility for attendance.

Teacher / Activity Supervisor

All lessons and activities are considered points of registration.

If a pupil is unaccountably absent then the Don taking that lesson or activity should contact the pupil's Tutor and PHM.

Requests for Leave of Absence

Details of rules for Privilege Weekends and Sundays Out can be found here: <u>Handbook for Socials</u>.

Requests for routine absence (Privilege Weekends, Sundays Out, Medical Appointments etc) should be made through the Tutor (housemaster).

Requests to miss school for other reasons should be made through the Sub Warden.

The School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 (formerly the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006) state that schools may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

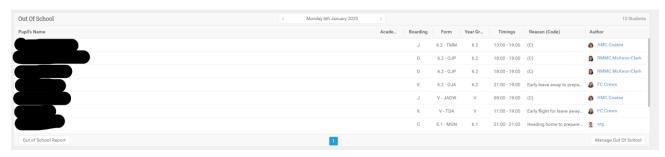
The fundamental principles for defining exceptional are described as, 'rare, significant, or unavoidable', and that, 'the event could not reasonably be scheduled at another time'. There are no specific rules on what constitutes 'exceptional' as circumstances vary from school to school and from family to family.

International Pupils

International pupils who are sponsored by the College on a Child Student Visa risk losing their visa through regular non-attendance. 10 consecutive, unauthorised absences will result in the UK Visas and Immigration Service being notified by the Admissions Department via the UKVI Sponsor Management system and the pupil's visa being withdrawn.

The Absences List

We manage a list of pupils who are away (for illness, trips etc) which can be found on the Out of School section on iSAMS:



An individual entry should be made for each pupil unless the absence is due to a school trip, in which case, an attached list can be added.

The keeping of absence data is essential for the care of pupils' academic progress and for the reporting on it. It is also a welfare matter for the College to know when pupils are not on the premises or regularly avoiding certain activities therefore absence data is reviewed periodically by Tutors and the Deputy Head (Pastoral) to identify any patterns or trends in behaviour.

If issues are discovered, the College works collaboratively with pupils, parents and local partners (where necessary) to resolve them. This is done by discussing with pupils and parents

any barriers to attendance and putting measures in place to encourage and improve attendance.

Absence Without Permission

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will notify the Local Authority if a pupil of compulsory school age is absent, without permission, continuously for a period of 10 days. This, however, only applies if the College does not have reasonable grounds to believe that the pupil is unable to attend because of sickness or unavoidable cause.

Where there is concern for a child's welfare, the College's Designated Safeguarding Lead will refer this to the local authority children's social care immediately.

Where a pupil's attendance without permission falls below 10%, a report is made to the Local Authority.