

Mary, Mother of Hope JNS

Statement of Strategy for School Attendance 2018/2019

Name of School	Mary, Mother of Hope JNS
Address	St Charles Houben Building, Littlepace, Dublin 15
Roll Number	203095
The School's vision and values in relation to attendance	<p>From our School Ethos statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school aims at fostering a sense of community between Management, Teachers, Parents, Pupils and the wider community. • The school staff strives to make the school a centre of excellence in which high professional standards are maintained and where pupils learn in a safe and happy environment. • The school recognises and celebrates the dignity and value of each individual child. Teachers are sensitive to the needs and particular circumstances of the pupils in their care. • Close contact is central to the positive experience of the child in school. We aim for parents and teachers to value, respect and support one another. We seek to collaborate as partners, in leading the young people in whose education we play such a crucial role. • The school's code of discipline reflects Christian values promoted in the school, with an emphasis on reconciliation, forgiveness, new beginnings and hope. • The school seeks to identify itself closely with the parish and the wider community and children are encouraged to participate in parish and community activities.
The School's high expectations around attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We expect that every child will attend school every day of the school year unless this cannot be avoided. • We expect children to be in school for the full school day. • We expect all school absences, regardless of the duration, to be accounted for by parents. This should be done in the form of a written note, email or phone message which is emailed to teachers by our school secretary and printed off for by teacher
How attendance will be monitored	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance is monitored using <i>Aladdin</i> • The roll is called at 9.00 daily. • Each class teacher has a responsibility to monitor the attendance of the children in their care. • All attendance is recorded on the <i>Aladdin</i> system with relevant explanations for absences also recorded • While marking attendance on <i>Aladdin</i>, teachers become aware of emerging patterns in relation to poor attendance. • Where teachers see a pattern of poor attendance emerging, they bring this to the attention of parents at an early stage • Parents receive a text/note when their child has missed 10 and again when 15 days absence has been recorded • The Educational Welfare Act requires schools to notify the National Educational Welfare Board (NEWB) of pupils who have been absent for 20 days and who are aged over 6 years of age. However, in this school, we monitor the attendance patterns of children from when they start school in Junior Infants, and inform Túsla of such absences, in order to seek to address the matter and deal with it as early as possible in the child's school career.
Summary of the main elements of the school's approach to attendance	<p>Attendance rate 2016-2017: 95.5%</p> <p>Attendance rate 2017-2018: 95%</p> <p>26 pupils missed over 20 days 2016/2017</p> <p>30 pupils missed over 20 days 2017/2018.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target setting and targets • The whole school approach • Promoting good attendance • Responding to poor attendance 	<p>We aim to maintain or increase attendance rates and reduce the number of children missing more than 20 days.</p> <p>The climate & atmosphere of our school is warm and welcoming. We strive to ensure that all children feel safe, happy & secure. The programs, approaches, activities and initiatives we select aim to ensure that children are active participants in their own learning, that learning is fun, that they experience success and positive reinforcement and that we are developing all aspects of the child. We aim for each child to feel valued & respected with a strong sense of self.</p> <p>We highlight the importance of good attendance with parents at Class Meetings in September each year. We recognise classes with best attendance each month. We celebrate & reward individual children with excellent attendance at the end of each academic year.</p> <p>We meet with parents to discuss the matter, provide appropriate advice and ongoing monitoring. Teachers make a special effort to acknowledge when a poor attender is in school and to encourage them to keep this up.</p> <p>Written contact is made with parents when a child has missed 10/15 days. Referral to Túsla is made when a child has missed 20 days.</p>		
<p>School roles in relation to attendance</p>	<p>Parents: To ensure that their child attends school as fully as possible throughout the school year. To ensure that their child is in school by 8.50 each day and stays until 1.30/2.30 To notify the Class Teacher in writing of all absences To work with Class Teacher and/or Principal where there are issues around their child's attendance</p> <p>Teachers To call the roll before 9.00 each day To record lateness To keep all notes of explanation on file. To accurately record reasons for absence. To send letters to parents if a child has missed 10 and 15 days To send notes requesting written explanations of absence if these have not been furnished To liaise with the Principal in relation to concerns about attendance/lateness of children in their class</p> <p>Principal To monitor attendance data and identify trends and patterns in attendance. To follow up poor attendance/punctuality To make reports to Túsla and liaise with Túsla staff where necessary.</p>		
<p>Partnership arrangements (parents, students, other schools, youth and community groups)</p>	<p>Parents; BOM; Parish: Mary, Mother of Hope SNS and other schools in the area; Érin go Brágh GAA; Leinster Rugby; Teachers running After School Activities</p>		
<p>How the Statement of Strategy will be monitored</p>	<p>Periodically with alterations made where required.</p>	<p>Review process and date for review</p>	<p>Reviewed annually by Board and staff in September.</p>
<p>Date the Statement of Strategy was approved by the Board of Management</p>	<p>17/09/2018</p>	<p>Date the Statement of Strategy submitted to Túsla</p>	<p>18/09/2018</p>