

# Kyle Park N.S.

## Statement of Strategy for School Attendance

This Statement of Strategy affirms the commitment of our school community to attendance as an important aspect of school ethos and policy.

We aim to build a culture of high expectations among staff, pupils and parents for each pupil's attendance, participation and learning. We aim to build in our pupils, a sense of personal responsibility for their own attendance and to place emphasis on the importance of teamwork with parents to promote good attendance and to address any individual difficulties that may affect attendance.

We also appreciate the role of other outside agencies in helping us to support the overall welfare of our pupils.

Finally, we realise that all aspects of a child's experience at school impacts on their engagement and attendance and we affirm our commitment to valuing each child and to making our school an inclusive, engaging and happy place to be.

During the school year 2017 / 2018, a draft policy was formulated by school staff and presented to the Board of Management for discussion. It was circulated to parents who were invited to provide feedback and suggestions.

The final draft was ratified by the Board of Management, distributed to all families and explained to and discussed with all the pupils. Pupils suggestions for rewards were sought and agreed on. It is essentially a work in progress and will be monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis.

### **Evidence:**

The following gives an overview of the position regarding attendance in our school from June 2013 to June 2017

	<u>June 2014</u>	<u>June 2015</u>	<u>June 2016</u>	<u>June 2017</u>
Total Enrolment	24	28	23	22
Total Days Absent	188	226	203	152
No. of pupils absent				
10 days or more	7	7	11	5
No. of pupils absent for				
20 days or more	1	2	0	0



- Attendance figures for a child transferring to another Primary School or to Post Primary School will be reported to Principal of the new school.
- Children missing 20 days or more will be reported to TUSLA in accordance with regulations.

**Responding to poor attendance:**

- The school will seek to respond to poor attendance in a timely and effective manner:
- Any red flag issues highlighted in the first term will be raised and discussed at parent / teacher meetings in February and/or by appointment with parents at another time.
- Every support will be given to families where necessary, based on individual requirements using internal school processes and the support of outside agencies when necessary.
- In the case of an escalated situation, referral to Tusla's Educational Welfare Services will be made.

**Monitoring and Review:**

- Attendance will be monitored by both class teachers. Parents and pupils will be included in the process as outlined above.
- Attendance will be on the agenda at each staff meeting and at one BOM meeting per term.
- The policy will be reviewed by staff and Board, in consultation with parents and pupils in-September 2023

**Ratification:**

This policy was reviewed by Board of Management on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_