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Attending school every day is one of the most important foundations for a child's success, both academically and emotionally. But we also understand that when children struggle to attend, there are often complex reasons behind it. That's why we are taking an important step forward in how we support pupils and families with attendance.

We are proud to introduce a new, inclusive model of attendance at Tameside Primary Academy, developed in partnership with Inclusive Attendance. This approach places compassion, clarity and inclusion at its heart, recognising that behind every statistic is a young person with their own story, needs and potential.

Across our Trust, we believe that inclusive attendance is vital for equity, wellbeing and achievement. We are committed to creating a culture where every child feels safe, understood and supported to be in school and learning.

This new approach is centred on relationships, early support and shared responsibility between staff, families and pupils. It acknowledges that attendance is not just about getting through the gate, but about how young people feel when they arrive and how well they are able to engage.

As part of this, we are introducing a **Multi-Tiered System of Support** to reflect the differing needs of our pupils:

- **Universal support** for all pupils, creating a positive, nurturing environment where good attendance is the norm.
- **Targeted support** (Tier 2) where early signs of difficulty emerge, often through our in-school family or early help teams.
- **Specialist support** (Tier 3) for families facing more complex challenges, with access to wider services where appropriate.

In addition to this, we are changing the way we communicate about attendance:

- We will no longer talk about attendance in percentages. Instead, we'll focus on **days missed**, which is clearer and easier to understand.
- We are also moving away from rewards towards a recognition-based approach, acknowledging individual effort and progress rather than only perfect records.

We believe these changes will help build a stronger culture of belonging, where attendance is supported in the right way for every child.

You can find more information on our attendance page and in our updated attendance policy. As always, if you have any questions or would like to talk to someone about attendance and how we can support you, please get in touch.

We are looking forward to building a culture where every learner, every day, is in school and thriving.

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