**Callystown National School**

Statement of Strategy for School Attendance

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| Name of school | Callystown National School |
| Address | Clogherhead, Co. Louth |
| Roll Number | 14252G |
| The school’s vision and values in relation to attendance | In Callystown National School we recognize the importance of school attendance. We endeavour to develop a supportive, positive and welcoming school environment where the needs of every individual child are met. Our holistic approach to the development of our students as individuals underpins all our actions. |
| The school’s high expectations around attendance | Every child in our school, to whom the School Attendance Act applies, is obliged by law to attend school every day on which the school is in operation, unless there is a reasonable excuse for not attending. |
| How attendance will be monitored | Attendance is recorded on the school’s Aladdin system. The school secretary will record the attendance figures in the Leabhair Tinrimh under the supervision of the Principal. The class teacher will monitor the attendance of each pupil in his/her class and the Principal will monitor each class’ attendance and the overall attendance of the school. |
| Summary of the main elements of the school’s approach to attendance:   * Target setting and targets * The whole-school approach * Promoting good attendance * Responding to poor attendance | In Callystown National School we do not experience difficulties with children’s attendance as a rule. Any concerns about a child’s attendance are brought, primarily, to the attention of the parents. Individual teachers are responsible for this, and the Principal will contact parents if the issue is becoming a problem. To date, this approach has prevented serious concerns arising. Good attendance is promoted constantly. Certificates are awarded at the end of each school year to students with 100% attendance and also to pupils who have been absent for three or fewer days.  A cumulative total of days missed by a pupil over his/her school years will be presented to his/her parents at each years’ Parent/Teacher meeting. Any child who is absent must have the relevant section of his/her homework journal filled in by a parent/guardian as an on-going record facilitating parental monitoring of attendance. In the event of a child missing 15 days, the school will post a letter to parents informing them of the number of days that have been missed and of the school’s obligation to report any pupil who is absent for 20 or more days. |
| School roles in relation to attendance | Rolls are maintained on Aladdin by individual class teachers. The Principal is responsible for reporting to TUSLA at the relevant points during the school year and at the end of the school year in the Annual School Report. These are reported electronically using Aladdin.  The school will promote good attendance as an essential element of pupils’ enrolment in school. The school will support any child or family who may have difficulties with attending and will employ strategies to try to alleviate the issue. In the event that a child/family are not satisfactorily responding to school initiatives then the Principal will seek the support of TUSLA. |
| Partnership arrangements (parents, students, other schools, youth and community groups) | This policy will be reviewed and supported by the school’s staff, the Board of Management and the Parents’ Council. |
| How the Statement of Strategy will be monitored | The Board of Management will monitor the strategy. |
| Review process and date for review | The strategy will be constantly reviewed and adapted when necessary. An official review of the policy will take place in the school year 2020/21 |
| Date the Statement of Strategy was approved by the Board of Management | 27th September 2017 |
| Date the Statement of Strategy submitted to Tusla | October 6th 2017 |