



MICHAEL PARK SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN POLICY

ATTENDANCE

Rationale

Non-attendance at school has been identified as a major barrier to learning and a significant indication of at risk students. It is the right of every child and teenager who is a resident of New Zealand to attend school and the responsibility of parents/caregivers to ensure attendance of all children up to the age of 16 (ss 65A and s 65B Ed. Act 1989; Nag 6; Education School Attendance Regulations 1951). Michael Park School Board of Trustees recognises its responsibilities to ensure regular attendance of enrolled students and all reasonable steps will be taken to ensure regular attendance at school.

Purpose

1. To assist students to attend school on a regular basis
2. To require students to attend school at all times when it is open in order to optimise learning

Guidelines

1. The school has the expectation of high attendance and encourages all parents to ensure their children attend school for the maximum possible time.
2. The school will have an enrolment system in line with the Education Act and our integration agreement.
3. Attendance registers will document attendance and non-attendance and this information will be recorded, analysed and reported according to Ministry of Education guidelines.
4. The school will have a consistent and documented procedure for marking attendance registers and teachers will follow this and keep accurate records of attendance.
5. All absences will require written notification via school links or a signed note from the parent
6. An attendance monitoring register will be kept on which will be placed the names of students identified as at risk or whose attendance causes concern.
7. Where irregular or prolonged absence is identified, prompt action will be taken by way of home contact with parents / caregivers.
8. In situations where absence is negatively impacting on learning progress contact will be made with parents / caregivers to outline concerns and identify steps to remedy the situation
9. The school will have procedures for when students are identified as truant in accordance with the Ministry of Education's guidelines (i.e. reporting to the local truancy office)
10. Any actions taken as a result of non-attendance will be clearly documented
11. Disciplinary procedures that involve absences from school will be in line with Ministry of Education regulations (ss 13 -18 Ed Act 1989).
12. School-wide patterns and trends relating to student attendance on a termly and annual basis and be reported to the Board of Trustees

Ratified by Board/RSST:

Signed for BOT/RSST

Date: 20/03/2017