

Enforcement - SAMP at Ferham

At Ferham, we monitor attendance in bands so that our monitoring and action is both swift and effective – both encouragement and enforcement.

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|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Violet | Indigo | Blue | Green | Yellow | Orange | Red |
| ≥ 96% | 91 – 95% | 86 – 90% | 81 – 85% | 76 – 80% | 71-75% | ≤ 70% |

SAMP (School Attendance Matter Pathway) ensures our enforcement strategy is consistent with the LA. SAMP applies to all pupils whose attendance is below 90%. Many pupils who join Ferham – in all age groups – have not been to school before so we allow a three-week grace period for new starters before SAMP is initiated.

Stage 1

Parents/carers receive a letter to indicate that their child's attendance is causing a concern. An offer of support from school or Early Help is made at this time. Attendance is then monitored for a period of 3 - 5 weeks.

At the end of the monitoring period, attendance is calculated for that period. If the child's attendance reaches 90% or above for the monitoring period, SAMP stops. If attendance remains below 90%, Stage 2 is initiated. During this monitoring period, if a child is absent for 3 separate days in a three-week period or has 4 days off in one of the weeks, we proceed straight to Stage 2.

Stage 2

Stage 2 involves another letter (letter 2) and a meeting in school in which the offer of Early Help is made again. A Parent Attendance Contract is also completed at this time. Attendance is then monitored for a further period of 3 - 5 weeks.

At the end of the monitoring period, attendance is calculated for that period. If the child's attendance reaches 90% or above for the monitoring period, SAMP stops. If attendance remains below 90%, Stage 3 is initiated.

During this monitoring period, if a child is absent for 3 separate days in a three-week period or has 4 days off in one of the weeks, we proceed straight to Stage 3.

Stage 3

Stage 3 is the final letter in the SAMP process; it informs parents/carers that enforcement action will now be taken. School submits a form to request enforcement which may take the form of a formal meeting with LASAP or a Fixed Penalty Notice up to £2500, or a 3 month prison sentence or an Education Supervision Order.