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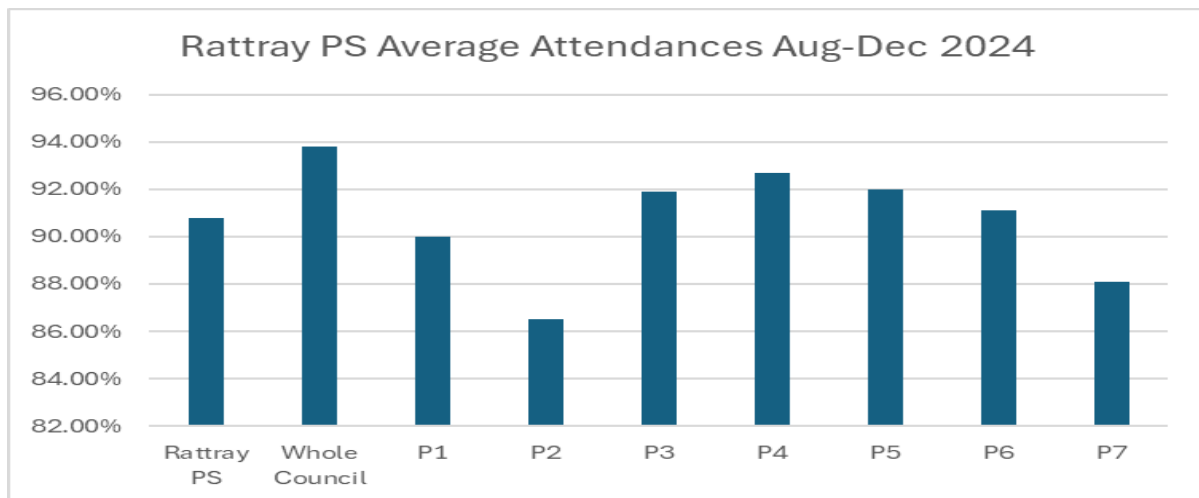
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Dear Parent/Carer

At the beginning of the school year, I communicated with all parents to emphasise the importance of school attendance and the detrimental effects that regular absences can have on pupils' education. Perth and Kinross Council is dedicated to enhancing attendance rates and has set an expectation of 96% attendance in primary schools. In accordance with Council procedures, we have conducted a review of each pupil's attendance records.

Our current statistics are shown in the below graph and table, and this shows that our current average is below the rest of the Council's.



Ratray Average attendance	Whole Council Average attendance	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
90.80%	93.80%	90%	86.50%	91.90%	92.70%	92%	91.10%	88.10%

If your child's attendance has fallen below 90% for terms 1 and 2 combined, or your child is consistently late to school I will be reaching out to you shortly to inform you of this. It is crucial for you to understand the impact these absences and lateness may have on your child's learning. Additionally, we believe that collaboration is the most effective way to improve attendance.



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## ATTENDANCE FACTS

Every pupil at our school must have an attendance of 96% in order for them to comply with Perth and Kinross Council regulation. When a child's absence falls below this figure it has a dramatic impact on their learning. The figures below state very clearly the effect absence has on your child's learning.

Attendance during one school year	Equates to school days absent in one school year	Equates to school weeks absent in one school year	Equates to school lessons missed in one school year	Effect of absence on your child's learning
95%	9 days	2 weeks	40 lessons	<b>Watch out!</b> <b>Your child will have gaps in their learning</b>
90%	18 days	4 weeks	80 lessons	
85%	27 days	6 weeks	120 lessons	<b>Danger! It will be difficult for your child to catch up.</b>
80%	36 days	8 weeks	160 lessons	
75%	45 days	10 weeks	200 lessons	<b>It will be almost impossible for your child to catch up.</b>
70%	54 days	12 weeks	240 lessons	
60%	72 days	14 weeks	320 lessons	

**WHEN ATTENDANCE DROPS TO BETWEEN 85% AND 90% - OVER 5 YEARS A CHILD WILL LOSE HALF OF YEAR OF SCHOOLING**

**WHEN ATTENDANCE DROPS TO 80% - OVER 5 YEARS A CHILD WILL LOSE A YEAR OF SCHOOLING**

Every day at school is like getting a piece of a jigsaw puzzle – the more pieces children have the easier it is for them to solve the puzzle. So, it would make sense that every day a child is at school the more successful their learning will be. We plan learning opportunities that build on previous activities and understanding; therefore, every day is as important as the previous day or the next day. The more time your child spends in school, the better your child's attainment in learning will be, and the more confident and successful they will feel in themselves.

As a school, we are legally required to monitor children's punctuality and attendance. As a school, if pupil attendance and lateness does not improve, we are also required to refer pupils to the Area Attendance Sub-Committee in terms of Section 36 and 37 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980.

**REMEMBER – EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS**

Should you wish to discuss how we can work together to improve your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely



Joanna Robertson  
Headteacher