

5th May 2023

Dear Parent/carer,

As you are aware The Arthur Terry School is committed to working with parents and carers. Currently absences from school are reported via our text system and appointments emailed to the attendance team.

(attendance@arthurterry.bham.sch.uk).

To help support parents and carers we're pleased to announce that we are introducing a new, more efficient, and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs.

With a few quick taps or clicks, you can update the school on your child's absence.

Studybugs

Why use

Helps safeguard your child - the school will be able to process sickness reports faster, so if any children are unaccounted for, we will know right away. The system also verifies that reports of your child's absence have really come from the parent/carer

Saves you time — it takes seconds to give us all we need and know we have received the message even if you're reporting at 6am or 11pm the night before. Studybugs will automatically remind you to keep the school updated.

Communication – the school will use Studybugs to communicate with parents and carers all things attendance related, celebrating improvements, notifying parents if their child is late to school, attendance newsletters etc

Contributes to public health by collecting anonymised data on illnesses going around — to help schools, parents and public health organisations take preventative action as early as possible.

Guides you with official guidance from the UK Health Security Agency (formerly Public Health England) on the need to stay off school, based on the symptoms or illnesses you enter.

Note: Studybugs does not provide medical advice or diagnosis — please consult your GP for this.

Confidential and secure. Your personal data is kept strictly confidential between you and the school. Studybugs never shares your personal data with third parties. All shared illness data is first anonymised, so your personal data is always kept confidential. You can also opt out of having your anonymised data shared. Studybugs is hosted from purpose-built secure facilities and all communications with Studybugs apps and website are encrypted.

For more information, please click on the below links

[Studybugs – Security](#)

[Studybugs – Privacy Notice](#)

The Arthur Terry Learning Partnership, a charitable company limited by guarantee,
registered in England and Wales, company number 07730920.
Registered office: The Arthur Terry School, Kittoe Road, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B74 4RZ
CEO Richard Gill, NPQH, NLE, FRSA

The Studybugs app is completely free to download and use. [Get the app & register now \(please click on the link\)](#)

We would encourage all parents and carers to download the Studybugs app. To ensure you receive all communication from school, we recommend all parents allow notifications for the app. There is also a new widget on the school website [Attendance – The Arthur Terry School](#) where you can also report your child's absence. Parents/Carers will need to register using the email address which is registered on the school system. If you would like to check this before registering, please email attendance@arthurterry.bham.sch.uk.

Please note if your child has an appointment, please continue to email the attendance team (attendance@arthurterry.bham.sch.uk) attaching a copy of the appointment to the email.

We are really excited about this new system, and we look forward to updating you on future software updates.

If you have any questions or difficulties downloading the app, please email attendance@arthurterry.bham.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,

The Leadership Team