School Attendance

What can you do to help?

- If you suspect that your child may be missing school or is unhappy at school, you should contact us as soon as possible so that you can work with us to resolve any difficulties.

- Make sure your child understands that you do not approve of them missing school, but be on the alert for any particular reasons for non-attendance, and discuss these with the school.

- If your child is ill or absent for any other reason, contact the school on the first day of absence.

- Take an interest in your child's education. Ask them about their day and praise and encourage their achievements at school. Co-operate with any support offered by the school.

The world is run by those who turn up.

Attending school every day = **100% attendance.**

Attending 4 ½ days a week = **90% attendance = 4 weeks missed per year.**

Attending 4 days a week = 80% attendance = **more than half a term missed per year or 2 full years missed over the course of their school career.**

Attending 3 ½ days each week = 70% attendance = **more than a quarter of the school year missed.**

An average attendance of **80% or less** across a child's school career adds up to missing **a whole 2 years from school**.

Being late for school reduces learning time. If your child is **5 minutes late every day** they will miss **three days of learning each year.**

If your child is **15 minutes late every day** they will miss **is 2 weeks of learning each year**.

Make every minute count

An Information Leaflet for Parents and Carers

Why is it important for children not to miss school?

If children do not attend school regularly they may:

- Struggle to keep up with school work.
- Miss out on the social side of school life – especially at primary school. Poor attendance can affect children's ability to make and keep friendships; a vital part of growing up.
- Develop poor attendance patterns.

School Matters!

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

What does the law say?

By law, all children of compulsory school age must get a suitable, full-time education.

As a parent/carer, you are responsible for making sure this happens, either by registering your child at a school or by making other arrangements which provide a suitable full-time education. Once your child is registered at a school you are responsible for making sure he or she attends regularly.

LAW

Reasons such as family bereavement or taking part in an agreed religious observance would be acceptable for short absences. Unacceptable reasons for missing school include shopping and birthdays.

What about authorised absences?

Of course there may be times when your child has to miss school because she or he is ill. This is to be expected and for the odd day off sick you should follow the school's procedures for notifying illness.

Children may also have to attend a medical or dental appointment in school time. However, you should try to make routine appointments such as dental check-ups during the school holidays or after school hours. Any absence must be requested as far in advance as possible. Absences can only be authorised by the school.

The Effect of Absence on School Progress

A **whole year** has **365** days. A **school year** has **190** days. This leaves **175 days** for family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments					
No absence	**10 days absence**	**12 days absence**	**19 days absence**	**29 days absence**	**38 days absence**
190 days of education	180 days of education	178 days of education	171 days of education	161 days of education	152 days of education
100%	**95%**	**94%**	**90%**	**85%**	**80%**
Very Good		**Worrying**		**Serious Concern**	
Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.		Less chance of success. Harder for your child to make progress.		Your child will find it very difficult to make progress.	

We will be following the SLC framework for Attendance and communicating attendance levels with parents/carers regularly across the year.

In session 2022-23 we are aiming that all children have an attendance rate of 95% and above. Let's strive to achieve this together!