



Every School Day Counts!



As a school, we have a responsibility to track and monitor attendance. We will provide advice and guidance and work in partnership with parents, carers, and young people to promote positive attendance and achieve the best possible educational outcomes.

Children are expected to attend school for 189.5 days in the academic year. For session 2023-2024, the term time dates are as follows:

Term and Dates	Number of School Days	1 Day Absent = Percentage of Term
Term 1 16 th August to 13 th October	41 days	2.44%
Term 2 23 rd October to 22 nd December	44 days	2.27%
Term 3 8 th January to 28 th March	55 days	1.82%
Term 4 15 th April to 26 th June	49.5 days	2.02%
Terms 1-4 Total Days in Term	189.5 days	0.53%

The table below is based on the 2023-2024 term dates. The process is as follows:

- **Attendance %** – Attendance displayed as a percentage of the whole school year so far.
- **Days Absent** – How many days absent in the school year.
- **School Weeks and Days Absent** – Equivalent number of days absent in school weeks and days.
- **Impact** – When a child has a high absence rate, they may miss the equivalent of a whole school term. This can have a huge impact on a child’s social and educational development.

Attendance %	School Days Absent	School Weeks and Days Absent	Impact
100%	0 days	0 weeks, 0 days	Gives your child the best chance of success and ensuring their full potential is achieved
95%	9½ days	1 week, 4½ days	
90%	19 days	3 weeks, 4 days	Makes it more difficult to achieve full potential and secure the best possible outcomes.
85%	28½ days	5 weeks, 3½ days Almost half a term missed	
80%	38 days	7 weeks, 3 days Half a term missed	Impacts significantly on learning and progress which can lead to poorer outcomes in achievement, wellbeing, and social and emotional development.
75%	47½ days	9 weeks, 2½ days Almost one whole term missed	
70%	57 days	11 weeks, 2 days Over a full term missed	

Points to Consider

- If your child has attendance that is lower than 85%, they could be missing at least one term’s worth of education in the school year, that is around one quarter of their learning.
- If your child’s attendance was to remain at this level, by the time he/she is in Primary 4, a whole school year of education could have been missed.
- If your child’s attendance was below 85% every year, from Primary 1 to Primary 7, he/she would have missed more than 1½ years of education.

I hope you have found this leaflet useful in helping you to understand the importance of regular attendance at school. If you would like to discuss your child’s attendance, please arrange to speak with a member of the Management Team.