



Attendance at Symington Primary School 2026-2027



Symington Primary School Attendance Guidelines 2026-2027

These guidelines are underpinned by South Ayrshire's Promoting Attendance Guidance for schools, 'Every Learner, Every Day' Campaign (2024) and the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) stating every child has the right to an education – Article 28.

Our school guidelines highlights the benefits of coming to school and preparing our children for their future. Our young people were consulted in the creation of this in September 2026.

Last session, Symington's overall attendance was 94.1%, our aim is to achieve 95% overall for this current session (2026-27).

Daily Attendance Procedures

- Teachers accurately record who is absent from the class and sent to the office for 9.10am.
- Children are marked late by the office if they arrive after 9.10am.
- Office staff will use appropriate coding for any absences that are communicated with the school (see list below)

-	Present
J	Late
H	School Holidays
UPH	Unauthorised Absence
PH	Authorised Holidays On rare occasions a holiday during term time is authorised. Examples of this being when a family needs time together to recover from distress, time is restricted due to employment (e.g. armed forces, emergency services), visiting their family in their country of origin.
OAT	Visiting other educational establishments
V	Educational Visits/residential
VIS	Trips
A	Family Bereavement
SEL	Illness

What to do if your child is absent or will be absent?

Contact the school via telephone – 01292 690074 or email symingtonmail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk informing why your child is absent or why they will be absent.

What happens if you do not contact the school?

The office staff will make contact to enquire why your child is absent.

If there is no contact, after 2 days someone from the school will visit the house. In some cases, if there is still no contact and the child has not been seen, Missing in Education protocols require to be completed.

Statistics and research demonstrate low attendance can impact attainment if it falls below 90%. The attendance of all our pupils is monitored on a fortnightly basis, if a pupil's attendance falls below 90% the school will make contact (if they are unaware of the reasons why) and supports can be discussed with the pupil and their family.

Percentage attendance	Number of days absence
100%	0 days
99%	0.38 days
98%	0.76 days
97%	5.7 days
96%	7.6 days
95%	9.5 days
94%	11.4 days
93%	13.3 days
92%	15.2 days
91%	17.1 days
90%	19 days

WHY COME TO SCHOOL?

Our pupils stated the following reasons important to come to school...

- To learn and know things- *Myles*
- To make sure you don't miss things- *Charlotte P4*
- To make new friends- *Jake*
- To get a good job and be successful- *Brodie S and Ciara*
- So you don't miss out on school activities- *Emily D*
- To have fun- *Eilidh P3*
- To learn to work with other people- *Lucy P6*
- To be active- *Alistair C*
- To learn to look after yourself- *Ciara*

As well as attending school, it is important to arrive on time.

