



Parent/Carer's Guide School Attendance



Our School Day

8:35am - School Gates Open

8.45am - Registration (children arriving after this time are late! Arrival after 9.15 is unauthorised)

3.15pm - End of School Day

Tell the school if your child will not be in school. Absence to be reported to school by 9:30am.

Why Attendance Matters

There is strong evidence to show that those children whose attendance is 96% or higher not only do much better in their learning and make greater progress but they are also happier and more settled in school. However, as soon as it starts to drop below this figure, their absence begins to have a damaging effect across all areas of their school life – a damaging effect that increases as their attendance rate falls.

Poor attendance (below 96%) is one of the single biggest blocks to child achievement as they start to fall behind in their learning. Then when they return, they can find themselves struggling with the work and behind their peers which will often have a further negative impact – this time not only on their learning, but also their happiness and wellbeing. This is the case whether absence is due to term-time holidays, illnesses or truancy - not being present in school disadvantages children.

Is your child struggling to attend?

There are a number of ways we can support you and your child with their attendance. Our primary aim is to get them back into school as quickly as possible. Communication is the key to help reintegrate children back in to school after long periods of illness or concerns about school life and the school community. Please speak to Fiona Cridland the School Attendance Officer, Jo Gardner the Family Liaison Officer or your child's Class Teacher if you have any concerns.

How we monitor school attendance

At school we monitor attendance on a daily basis. This is also monitored by DCC and the DFE and we have termly visits from our Attendance Improvement Officer. Any child's attendance that is giving us cause for concern will receive a letter highlighting this. You may also be invited into school to discuss why your child's attendance is low and look at ways we can help to improve this. This might take the form of involving other partner agencies. Once we have a plan in place we can work together to improve attendance.

Term Time Absence

Term Time Absence is only agreed in exceptional circumstances - holidays are not considered an exceptional circumstance. If you take a holiday during term time you may receive a fine, for each child and each parent/carer.

Please click [here](#) to see the legal penalties and terms.



Attendance and the Law

As a parent or carer, you are legally responsible for making sure your child attends school regularly. If your child does not attend regularly, you may be prosecuted and/or fined.