

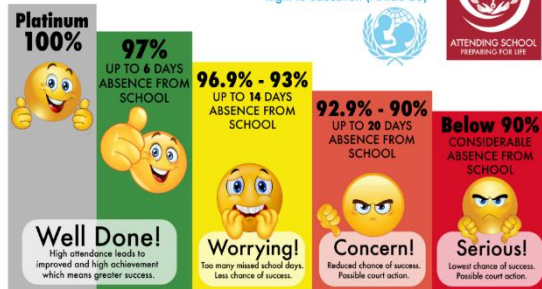
Every school day counts

Every single day that a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.

Attendance percentages can be misleading

WHAT IS YOUR ATTENDANCE?

Right to education (Article 28)



There are 175 non school days a year.
That's plenty of time to go on visits, holidays, shopping and other appointments.

For some parents 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year – that's nearly 4 school weeks.



We closely monitor attendance in collaboration with our Education Welfare Officer. She visits every week to check attendance and lateness.

If your child's attendance falls below a certain level, you may be invited in to see how the school can help to support you in ensuring that an improvement is made.

If you know that your child is going to be late or absent for any reason please call our attendance number – 01279 427465 (Henry Moore), 01279 435850 (Milwards).

You must then ring the school for every subsequent day of absence.

If your child is absent and we have not received prior notification we will call you to confirm the reason for the absence.

It is the parent or carer's responsibility to ensure their child attends school regularly and punctually.

We understand that at times it can be difficult for legitimate reasons to ensure that your child is punctual and attending school regularly. Should you require any help or support with attendance or punctuality please contact Mrs Spencer (Pastoral Manager)

How parents can help

- ✓ Establish a good routine in the morning and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- ✓ Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
- ✓ Ensure your child arrives at school on time – not late.
- ✓ Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
- ✓ Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness.
- ✓ Take family holidays outside of term time.
- ✓ Talk to your child and take an interest in their school work (including homework)
- ✓ Attend parent evening and school events
- ✓ Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school – staff are there to help and be supportive.
- ✓ Ensure your child is fully equipped for school and all weather.

Attendance & Punctuality



A Guide for Parents/Carers



Attendance and punctuality is important. Children who attend regularly and on time make rapid and sustained progress.

Ofsted states that “**There is a clear link between attendance and achievement**”.

Excellent attendance at school is important to allow a child or young person to fulfil their potential.

- ✓ To learn and achieve
- ✓ To have fun
- ✓ To make new friends
- ✓ To experience new things in life
- ✓ To develop awareness of other cultures, religion, ethnicity and gender differences
- ✓ To gain qualifications
- ✓ To develop new skills
- ✓ To build confidence and self- esteem
- ✓ To have the best possible start in life.

Our attendance targets are deliberately set to be aspirational because we want to promote excellent attendance and punctuality habits.

Family Holidays

Head Teachers are not authorised to permit holidays during term time. Any application will be unauthorised.

In total there are 175 non-school days a year. This gives families the opportunity to:

- Spend time together
- Go on family visits
- Go on holiday
- Go shopping
- Go on days' out
- Attend routine appointments

You can demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by not taking holidays during term time.

Government legislation states that Head Teachers may not grant leave of absence during term time unless there are **exceptional circumstances.**

Term time holidays may result in a fine being issued per child to all parents by the Local Authority.

Please remember that you do not have a legal right to take your child or children out of school during term time.

All leave requests must be applied for 14 days before being taken.