

# Absences



## Authorised absences

- Your child is too ill to attend school (proof of illness from your doctor may be required).
- An unavoidable medical appointment which cannot be re-arranged outside of school hours.
- One day for religious observance.



## Unauthorised absences

- A family holiday
- Sleeping in
- Staying off school because a sibling or parent is unwell
- Taking the day off because of a birthday
- Taking extra days off for religious observance
- Staying home for deliveries
- Any other similar reason

## Leave in term time

We do not authorise leave in term time. This is to ensure your child has every opportunity to learn with their peers and develop good habits for the future.



# Why is good attendance and punctuality important?

Education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Regular and punctual attendance at school is key to both academic and social development, which in turn will improve the life chances of children and young people.

## What does good attendance look like?

Our school target for all pupils is at least 96%. This figure is impacted by both punctuality and attendance, so it is vital that your child is on time. They must be in school for 8:40am.

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
100%	0 days	0 weeks	0 lessons
97%	5 days	1 week	30 lessons
95%	10 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	20 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	30 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	40 days	8 weeks	200 lessons

LOST MINUTES =  
LOST LEARNING!



## Your responsibility

Parents and carers have a legal duty to ensure that their children attend school regularly and punctually in order to optimise their learning, achieve the best they can and get the most out of their school experience. Failure to do so is an offence under section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996.

## Attendance monitoring

Every child's attendance and punctuality is monitored in school. If your child is identified as requiring further support, there are a number of ways in which we aim to support parents:

- First day absence calls
- Second day absence calls
- Home visits
- Attendance contracts
- Attendance workshops
- Breakfast Club
- Walking bus
- Specific support to meet your family's needs - Early Help
- Whole class rewards
- Individual rewards

However, if a child's attendance remains below 90% they are classed as being persistently absent. This will result in further interventions, such as School Attendance Review Meetings (SARMs), targeted monitoring periods and legal action if required.