



Missing a few days of school may not seem like a big deal but every moment in school counts and days missed add up quickly. Evidence shows that pupils who have good attendance enjoy better wellbeing and school performance than those who don't.



What will the school do?

We monitor the attendance of all children regularly. We will telephone home if no reason is given for the absence and will record this. School will closely monitor children who persistently miss school. We are here to listen and to support families where attendance is causing concern. We know that there can be complex issues which can impact school attendance. We will work together with families to ensure children have good attendance. If we are unable to speak to you over the phone, we may do a home wellbeing visit. Where attendance is causing concern and is not improving, a parenting contract may be discussed. When a child has missed 10 or more sessions for unauthorised reasons, school will consider a fine as per the new attendance framework.

What is an authorised absence?

There are only a few circumstances where a child is allowed to miss school. These include:

- Illness
- Medical appointments (proof will be required). These should be booked outside of school hours where possible.
- Exceptional circumstances such as a bereavement
- Religious observance (up to 3 days a year)

A child can attend school with a cough or a cold, as long as they do not have a high temperature.

Other absences will likely be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Term time holidays will not be authorised and will likely result in a fine.

What can I do to support my child's attendance?

- Ensure your child attends school **every day** unless ill.
- If they are ill please ensure that you inform the school ASAP by calling the school office on **0161 881 2158**. Only keep them home if they are really unable to attend.
- Let us know with as much notice as possible if your child has an appointment.
- Phone school **every** morning that your child is absent, so that our attendance records are accurate and up-to-date.
- Make sure your child arrives on time! Remember, doors close promptly at 8:45a.m. Late comers not only miss vital lesson time and find it difficult to come to class when others have started learner.
- For any support around attendance or routines, speak to the class teacher, or Sharon Drinkwater.

What does the law say?

From August 2024, all schools will be required to consider referring cases to the local authority, who may issue a fine. A fine will be issued when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons. These sessions do not have to be consecutive. The fine for school absences across the country will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days. If a parent receives a second fine within any three-year period, this will be charged at the flat rate of £160. Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, a parenting order or prosecution will be considered. The vast majority of fines for unauthorised absence are issued for term time holidays.

School begins
at 8:45