

Every child should be able to attend school every day.

Government expectations are that school attendance should be at least 96% and when it is below 90% it is classed as 'persistent absence'.

96% = 8 days absence from school each year.

90% = 19 days absence from school each year

which is half a year of school missed over 5 years!

85% = 28 days absence from school each year

80% = 38 days absence from school each year.

which is 1 year of school missed over 5 years!

Research shows that missing 17 school days each year could cause your child to drop at least one grade in their GCSEs.



MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

It is important to try to reduce the number of days of learning lost by illness absence that could be avoided.

Please encourage your child to get plenty of sleep on school nights, give them enough fluids on hot days and encourage them to dress sensibly in the winter.

We realise that childhood illnesses occur and your child may miss the occasional day of school but please encourage them to return as soon as possible, catch-up with work missed and if they continue to be ill, please consult a GP. Please aim to make appointments outside of school hours. If this is not possible please collect your child and drop them back in good time.

If your child has an on-going or chronic illness or medical condition, please make sure that school is aware. We will try to support your child and may need to discuss a care plan for them so that staff are aware of their needs.

If illness absence persists and there is no underlying cause, you may be requested to seek medical advice and provide evidence that a doctor has been consulted.



Should my child go to school today?

Too much learning time is lost by students missing school due to minor illness.

In many cases children can be given paracetamol and plenty of fluids and if they feel well enough, can be sent to school.

Minor illness like headaches sore throats and 'feeling sick' should not stop them from attending — follow the advice in this leaflet and send them to school - we can send them home if they get worse.

If your child stays at home but feels better later, send them to school—at least they will not miss a whole day of learning.

Minor illness

Aches (headache, earache, stomach ache)- children can go to school—you may want to let staff know they have felt unwell. If symptoms persist, seek medical advice.

Athlete's foot—treatment is recommended but children can go to school.

Chicken pox—children can go to school when all the spots have scabbed over.

Cold Sores—children can go to school.

Conjunctivitis—children can go to school. Treatment may be recommended. They should wash their hands regularly to prevent further spread of infection.

Coughs, colds and sore throats—children can be sent to school. If your child is asthmatic, remember they may need their blue inhaler more often.

Diarrhoea and Vomiting—children can go to school when symptoms have stopped, they have managed to eat or drink something and they feel well enough (usually 24 hours from last episode).

Flu and Swine Flu (diagnosed by a doctor) - children can go to school when they feel well enough or as advised by a doctor.

German measles—children can go back to school four days after the rash has started. Please let the school know as pregnant members of staff may be affected.

Hand, Foot and Mouth—children can go to school.

Head Lice—children can go to school once they have been treated. Parents should treat their children and other family members by wet combing with a nit comb and conditioner.

High temperature—if they feel well enough, children can go to school. If the high temperature continues for three days or more, seek medical advice.

Impetigo—children can go to school when their lesions are scabbed over and healed, or 48 hours after starting antibiotics.

Measles—children can go to school four days after the rash has started.

Mumps—children can go back to school five days from the start of swollen glands.

Scabies—children can go to school after the first treatment. Everyone at home should be treated.

Scarlet Fever— children can go to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

Shingles—children can go to school providing the rash can be covered and is not weeping.

Tonsillitis/glandular fever—a doctor will recommend the length of absence a child needs but children can go to school if well enough.

Threadworm/Ringworm—children can go to school when they have been treated. Everyone at home should be treated too.

Warts and Verrucae— children can go to school—verrucae should be covered in changing rooms and pools.

Whooping cough—children should go back to school five days after starting antibiotics.

Why must my child go to school regularly?

- Children cannot learn if they are not in school.
- Without learning, they cannot become qualified.
- Without qualifications, finding a job will be more difficult.
- Without a job, they will find it difficult to build a satisfactory and prosperous adult life.