

Why attendance matters ...

- If your child misses school, they are missing out on many important things whilst growing up such as: managing social situations; physical activity or emotional support; as well as their actual learning.

- We may not think a day or two matters, but over time the impact of time away from school will affect your child.

Days missed during the school year	Approximately ...	Approximate amount of lessons missed
9.5 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons

The harsh reality ...

Data shows that children in primary school who didn't achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths missed on average four more days per school year than those whose performance exceeded the expected standard.

One day could be as many as five missed lessons, as well as time spent with friends and doing extracurricular activities.

Over time, gaps in their learning will grow, making it harder and harder for your child to feel confident in certain subjects.

1 day a week

5 weeks of the year	25 lessons
10 weeks of the year	50 lessons
15 weeks of the year	75 lessons

Why coming to school matters...

- School **isn't just about learning**. It's a warm, supportive environment where your child can see their friends, move actively and develop good communication skills whilst developing resilience for tricky situations.

-Attending school every day can help your child to achieve **their aspirations**, and the **aspirations you have for them**.

-**Mental health**: In today's world more and more issues arise. School brings your child a chance to be a child within a safe setting outside of the home where support is available to navigate trickier social interactions; build confidence in a sense of self; and develop skills and learning needed for the next stage of life.



Our aim is to work with you in supporting your child's attendance

- For some children, coming to school is not as easy as they would like. We understand this and want to **work with your child (and with you)** on helping them feel confident to explain any concerns. We can then work together to provide reassurance and support, and ease that anxiety that might grow between leaving school and returning, making it harder for parents to challenge it at home.

- We know that parents and carers worry about their children's mental health. Rather than keeping your child off school, let us know about your and their concerns. We can then **work together** on supporting your child.

- It can be difficult to know whether your child is too ill to attend school. **NHS guidance is clear** that it's fine to send them in with a minor cough or common cold, provided they don't have a **high** temperature.

-**Thank you** for the effort in takes on those more challenging days; please talk to us as it we might be able to help.

-Also thank you for *-wherever possible-*arranging your child's medical appointments out of school time or as close to the beginning or end of a day.