

HARD FACTS...

There is a proven link between good school attendance and an improved level of attainment... which in turn leads to a greater chance of success. Regardless of the reason, if your child isn't at school it will impact on their learning.

Parents/carers are legally responsible for ensuring their child attends school on time every day. You could be fined £60 per parent per child if you take your child out of school without the school's permission. Our required rate of attendance is 97%.

BE ON TIME!

The school gates open at 8.30am and children enter school going straight to their classroom. The bell is rung at 8.45am when the school day officially begins. Children don't like being late and walking into class after everyone else. It doesn't give them a chance to calm themselves down, get organised, or say hello to their friends.

DID YOU KNOW?



Being 10 minutes late every day = 33 hours lost to learning every year.

MEET SOFIA...

She has 90% attendance...

Which sounds ok...

But is it...?

90% attendance = four whole weeks of school missed every year...

90% attendance = 1/2 a day missed every week...

90% attendance = a severe impact on Sofia's learning and achievement

Help your child succeed...
By making sure they are in school



St Michael's CEP
School

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



WHY REGULAR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS SO IMPORTANT...



AND WHY GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL ON TIME IS VITAL...

ATTEND TODAY... ACHIEVE TOMORROW



WHAT ARE 'THE RULES'?

Kent County Council says that 'children must attend school regularly and on time', saying the two reasons your child can miss school are:

- ◆ They are too ill to go to school
- ◆ The school has authorised them to be absent

School policy is that absence during term time can only be approved in 'exceptional circumstances'. For example, absence will not be authorised for:

- ◆ Persistent non-specific illness
- ◆ Absence of siblings if one child is ill
- ◆ Oversleeping
- ◆ Inadequate clothing/uniform
- ◆ Confusion over school dates

- ◆ Medical/dental appointments of more than half a day without good reason
 - ◆ Child's/family birthday
 - ◆ Shopping trip
 - ◆ Family holidays (with rare exceptions)
- Children are not entitled to holidays in term time. However, requests for leave due to 'exceptional circumstances' must be made in writing to the Headteacher, with each case judged on its merits. It is the parents' responsibility to contact the school on the first day their child is absent. This is a safeguarding issue requirement so that all parties know that your child is safe. Parents should regularly update the school over the absence and the return to school.

THINK ABOUT IT



If your child misses lessons, they will fall behind with their work and may find it hard to catch up. They will not be able to do their best in class or in tests and may get frustrated about this.

All this might affect how they view school and could, in turn, lead to disruptive behaviour. Please think about this before you decide to keep your child off school.

Persistent unauthorised absence (10% or more of the school year) may result in referral to the Local Authority School Liaison Officer. This equates to just two days every month.

DAYS OFF SCHOOL = LOST LEARNING AND UNDERACHIEVEMENT If you are concerned about your child's attendance or would like more information about what constitutes an authorised absence, please contact the school.

There are 190 days in a school year, leaving 175 for family time, holidays, etc.
See how the figures add up...

