



Attendance Facts

If your child attends school **100%** they will be able to make the best of all the opportunities available to them.

Children who attend above 95% are more likely to gain 5 or more A-C GCSEs or equivalent qualifications.

If your child has **90%** over the whole 11 years at school, they will have missed over one year's education!

91.1% attendance = missing 17 days of school in one year.

Missing 17 days a year also means dropping 1 GCSE grade (on average).

Children with less than 85% attendance are unlikely to gain 5 A*- C GCSEs.

82.1% attendance = missing 34 days of school in one year.

If your child has **80%** attendance over the whole 11 years at school, they will miss over TWO years education!

Poor attendance like this will have a serious impact on education and life chances.



We can only teach those who attend

Punctual and regular school attendance is an essential requirement for successful learning from the time a child starts school

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

The information in this booklet is supported by all the schools in Adur. - Shoreham Academy, Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Buckingham Primary, Eastbrook Primary, Glebe Primary, The Globe Primary, Herons Dale School, Holmbush Primary, North Lancing Primary, Shoreham Beach Primary, Sompting Village Primary, St. Nicolas and St. Mary's Primary, St. Peter's Primary, Swiss Gardens Primary.

Practicalities

- ☺ You need to make attendance a priority.
- ☺ It is the parents' responsibility to contact the school to report any absence.
- ☺ **Telephone the school: 01273 592471**
- ☺ **First Call System:** If a child is absent in the morning and the school has not received an explanation by 9.00am, we will telephone home or text.
- ☺ You should send a note into school upon your child's return, explaining the reason for absence.
- ☺ Your child should return to school as soon as he/she is able to do so.
- ☺ If you have ANY concerns about attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the School.

Holidays

In total there are 175 non-school days a year. This gives families the opportunity to:

- ☺ Spend time together
- ☺ Go on family visits and days out
- ☺ Go on holiday
- ☺ Go shopping
- ☺ Attend routine appointments

If your child has a holiday of 1 week during term time and 10 days of illness, they would miss 75 hours of education in an academic year. If this pattern were to be repeated throughout your child's school life, they would miss almost a year of their education.

Children who go on holiday for a week during the term, may miss out on more than one week of work. Before they go on holiday, they can be distracted and afterwards they may not be able to access learning because they have missed out on part of their learning journey.

Case Studies

A parent contacted a school regarding problems that their child was having at play times. It became clear that the child was finding it difficult to make and keep friends because the child was having significant time off school.

A teacher complained that she had to give up her lunchtime to help a child having difficulties in maths. The child had been on a term time holiday and had therefore missed vital maths lessons.

A new child was finding it difficult to integrate into a class. He had missed end of term activities when "not much is done" but friendships and good memories are created. "Social" aspects of school life are an important part of the curriculum.

Wherever possible please make medical and dental appointments outside of school hours



Illness

If your child is likely to be off school for more than a couple of days, please contact the school as there will be work your child is able to complete at home so they do not fall too far behind. Children are able to access some work through our virtual learning environment FROG.

Be Safe

Persistent absentees are statistically more likely to become teenage parents, unemployed or homeless or to engage in petty crime and drug abuse.

Good attenders are less likely to fall into these dangers. A persistent absentee is a child who misses on average one day of school each week throughout the academic year.

Under 85% attendance = A PERSISTENT ABSENTEE

This means that children who are absent for around 10 days per term are more likely to be followed up by the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) and be issued with a fixed penalty notice (fine).

The Law

The Education Act 1996 requires parents to ensure their children of compulsory school age receive efficient full-time education.

The law says that parents/carers whose children of compulsory school age are absent from school without good reason are committing an offence.

Unauthorised absence includes:

- ☺ Arriving after the register has closed at 9.00 a.m.
- ☺ All day dental/medical appointments
- ☺ Shopping trips
- ☺ Birthdays
- ☺ Visiting relatives
- ☺ Extra days tagged onto weekends
- ☺ Holidays
- ☺ Having sick relatives or siblings who are sick

The Local Education Authority can issue a fixed penalty notice (fine) for unauthorised absence

Please check your child's attendance on their report