

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**  
**Abridged**  
**Florence City Schools**

The Attendance Policy for Florence City Schools may be viewed in its entirety in the Parent-Student Handbook posted on the Florence City Schools website at [www.florenceck12.org](http://www.florenceck12.org). It is located under the “At Your Fingertips...” heading on the left side of the home page.

- Every student between the ages of six and 17 is required to attend school.
- All absences are unexcused until a valid written explanation is provided.
- All written explanations (parent, doctor, court, etc.) must be turned in to the school within three school days following the student’s return to school.
- Excused absences based on parent-written notes may not exceed a total of five days per semester.
- Other excused absences require a doctor’s note or written proof of required court appearance.
- Absences may be excused for the following reasons:
  - Illness that endangers the student’s health or the health of others.
  - Students that are deemed ill by the school nurse on a given day.
  - Death of an immediate family.
  - Legal quarantine.
  - Students that are receiving healthcare, hospitalized, etc.
  - Inclement weather that would be dangerous to the life and health of the child as determined by the LEA.
  - Legal requirements for students.
  - Observance of any sacred day set aside by a recognized religious denomination of which the student is a member.
  - Military deployment date of a student’s parent.
  - Emergency conditions as determined by the LEA.
  - Principal’s authority
- All other absences, except suspensions, are unexcused. (Suspensions are excused absences)
- Parents/guardians and the student are required to attend an Early Warning session when a student accrues 5 unexcused absences.
- Failure to appear at the Early Warning session will result in truancy charges filed in the Lauderdale County Court System against the parent/guardian of students in grades K-6 and against the student in grades 7-12.
- If a student continues to accrue unexcused absences after attending Early Warning, the parent/guardian of the student or the student is in danger of having truancy charges filed against him/her.