

Renton School District – Family Attendance Pledge Letter



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Regular school attendance is essential for your child's success. Students who attend consistently feel better about school, stay on track academically, and are more likely to graduate and succeed after high school.

Why Attendance Matters:

- Absences (excused or unexcused) starting in kindergarten can cause students to fall behind.
- Missing just 2 days per month (18+ days/year) greatly increases risk of academic struggles.
- Consistent tardiness to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Chronic absenteeism by 6th grade is a strong warning sign for dropping out.
- By 9th grade, attendance predicts graduation better than test scores.

Our Promise:

We know challenges may arise. If your student struggles with attendance, please contact us. Our staff (nurse, counselor, teachers, attendance office) are here to help identify barriers and provide support. We will track attendance and communicate with you as they happen.

What We Need From You:

- Call the school if your child will be absent.
- Work with us to develop a plan if attendance becomes a concern.
- Understand that state law (RCW 28A.225) requires children ages 8–17 to attend school (younger if enrolled). It requires us to get your signature to verify that you have received this letter.

Key Policies:

- **3 unexcused absences in a month** → required family conference.
- **5 excused absences in a month or 10 in a year** → school will contact you for a meeting (unless excused by doctor/notes).
- **7 unexcused absences in a month or 15 in a year** → school must file a petition with juvenile court. You and your student may need to appear in juvenile court if your student continues to be truant.

How You Can Help:

- Talk with your child about the importance of attendance.
- Keep routines consistent (bedtime, morning prep).
- Schedule appointments outside school hours, when possible.
- If possible, avoid extended trips when school is in session.
- Monitor attendance—missing 9+ days risks falling behind.

Please follow this link <https://forms.gle/YhB4jymG9a3Y6ztw9> to review and complete form.