

A COMMON SENSE APPROACH TO AVOIDING ATTENDANCE ISSUES

Regular School Attendance is Essential:

Regular school attendance plays a vital role in a student's academic success and personal development. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to engage in lessons, complete assignments, and perform well on assessments. Absenteeism can create gaps in learning, making it more challenging for students to keep up with their coursework.

School Attendance is a State Law:

In accordance with the **State of Indiana's** education laws, **school attendance is mandatory for all students**. It is important that we work together to ensure that students attend school regularly and are prepared for academic success.

Excused Absences:

Students are expected to attend school each day unless there is a valid reason for being absent. Absences are excused for reasons such as illness, medical appointments, or family emergencies. Please communicate with the school on days your student is absent and/or provide appropriate documentation, such as a doctor's note, when possible.

Unexcused absences occur when a student is absent without a valid reason or if the school is not notified. We strongly encourage families to communicate with your school and avoid unnecessary absences.

Habitual Truancy:

As defined by **Indiana State Law**, a student is considered **habitually truant** if they have **10 or more unexcused absences** in a school year. Habitual truancy is a serious issue and may result in intervention by school administration, a Project Attend meeting, and, in some cases, legal consequences.

Chronic Absenteeism:

The State of Indiana defines **chronic absenteeism** as missing **10% or more of the school year**, which equates to **18 or more total days** of absence, whether excused or unexcused. Chronic absenteeism is also a serious issue which may result in intervention by school administration, a Project Attend meeting, and, in some cases, legal consequences. Chronic absenteeism can negatively impact a student's academic performance and overall success in school. We encourage all students to attend school regularly to avoid falling into this category.

Tardiness:

Punctuality is important. It is vital to arrive on time to not miss valuable instruction. Students entering the classroom late disrupt the educational opportunities for other students.

Please refer to the KVSC attendance policy on the school website for further information.