



We know that parents/carers want the same overall aim as school for their children: **to be happy, heathy and successful.**

In respect of education, without any doubt, a high level of attendance is the foundation for this to happen.

What is good attendance?

Taking into account some possible sickness, **children should be in school for at least 96%** of the time.

This means that a child would have **no more than 8 days absence** in a school year.

If a child is absent more regularly without a specific medical condition, this should be referred to a GP as it is not normal for children to be absent often. In fact, it is possible for many children to have 100% attendance for a whole year.

What is the impact of high and low attendance?

Children who have high attendance in school will:

- ✓ Feel comfortable and **happy** with the consistent routines and boundaries
- ✓ Access all the teaching necessary to build their knowledge and understanding leading to **success**
- ✓ Feel like a **valued** part of the class and school by participating in all aspects
- ✓ **Achieve** the highest standards possible for them, in all subjects
- ✓ Be **ready** for their next stage of education



Children who have low attendance will:

- Feel uncertain and **anxious** about what is happening in school, and this can lead to a lack of increasing confidence
- Have an increasing number of **gaps in their learning** that they can't catch up on.
- **Miss out on opportunities** that support their personal development as well as academic development
- **Achieve lower outcomes**, on average, than their peers with high attendance.

As long as attendance is good in Year 6, will they be fine for SATs?



Where children start school in Nursery and Reception with low attendance, this can become a pattern. For children who have had low attendance year-on-year, **all data shows that they will have the lowest outcomes in Year 6 SATs.**

The consequence of this is that they will not be prepared for the transition to secondary school in a way which helps them settle well and make the progress necessary on their journey towards GCSEs.

What are the school's responsibilities for managing attendance?

To support all children to access their educational entitlement for their future prosperity, we will:

- ✓ have high expectations that every child, regardless of their context, should attend school every day.
- ✓ monitor the attendance of all children on a weekly basis.
- ✓ work with parents/carers where issues arise and signpost to other professional support where appropriate
- ✓ refer cases of continued low attendance to the Legal Intervention Team which may result in a fine.