

Attendance at Woodnook

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life. The law requires parents to make sure their children receive full-time education suitable to their needs.

Going to school regularly is important for your child's future. For example, children who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do less well than their peers.

Good attendance shows potential employers that your child is reliable. Research suggests that children who attend school regularly could also be at less risk of getting involved in antisocial behaviour or crime.

Good school attendance habits are best started early. Children learn from those around them and you as parents/carers set the standards and expectations for your child. Showing your child the importance of attending school every day not only helps your child to settle quickly when starting school but helps them to keep and maintain friendships and enjoy the school environment.

Be organised, have a plan, be consistent and involve your child.

You should:

- ✓ create good routines for mornings at home so that your child can arrive punctually and they are properly equipped; this will also mean your mornings can start calmly too
- ✓ make time to encourage and show interest. Chat to them about the things they have learnt, what friends they have made and even what they had for lunch! Remember children can be tired when coming out of school, so a short chat over a snack or later that evening may produce a better result than a long list of questions
- ✓ read all school communications.
- ✓ attend school open evenings and functions
- ✓ check your child understands the homework and that it has been completed. Support them in completing homework by creating a calm space for them to work in and set specific times during the week when homework should be done
- ✓ share any education concerns your child or you may have with the appropriate member of school staff
- ✓ avoid absence from school wherever possible – try to make doctors and dental appointments out of school hours. Absence means your child will miss out on the academic studies and will also learn that education is not the main priority within the family. This can have a lifelong effect.
- ✓ **inform school at the start of the school day if your child is to be late or absent.**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS
99% + Excellent
98% + Good
96% Satisfactory (National Average)
95% School begins to closely monitor
93% At risk of underachievement
90% Pupil becomes a Persistent Absentee
89%- Possible referral to Local Authority & Legal Action

Please be aware that it is school policy for a member of staff to make unannounced home visits for monitoring purposes.