

Date: 30 November 2018
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Dear Parent or Carer,

Miss School Miss Out

I am writing to remind you of the benefits of school attendance and the positive ways school life improves children's lives. As you know, it is your responsibility as a parent or carer to ensure your child or young person access their education and we will support you in this.

There is a strong education offer for our children and young people delivered by schools in the Brighton & Hove Education Partnership within the city. The various results achieved by pupils last year reflect the high quality of education available in all our schools. The results are better than the national average.

Missing school means missing out on so many things. You will hopefully have seen posters and information about school attendance which were shared before the summer holidays. You will be seeing more of these in the coming months.

Not attending regularly limits opportunities for your child to make the most of being at school. Being at school is about being with friends, experiencing new activities and learning new skills as well as impacting on a young person's future prospects.

Future employers and training providers look to see what grades a young person has achieved. We know that in this city, pupils attending for more than 95% of the year achieve GCSE results that are one grade higher than those that don't.

There are very few reasons why a pupil should not be in school and it is essential that you, as parents or carers, play your part. Thank you to all parents and carers who already support us by prioritising school attendance.

Facts to think about:

- Missing 19 days in a school year will mean only being in school for 90% of the time. Being late by 15 minutes every day means missing two weeks of learning in a year.
- School life provides pupils with more experiences than just what is taught in lessons and these help to improve your child's future prospects.
- Children do not need to stay off school if they have mild health problems such as conjunctivitis, a cold or headache.
- Advice is available if you need support in making sure your child has good school attendance, every school has an allocated member of staff who can help.
- More information is available on our website: <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/children-and-education/schools/miss-school-miss-out>

I am sure you can see the benefits of making sure your child doesn't Miss School and Miss Out and helping your child to attend school every day they can. Thank you.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jo Lyons
Assistant Director
Families, Children and Learning (Education & Skills)