

Most pupils and parents think **90%** attendance is good.
Are they right?

90% attendance = $\frac{1}{2}$ a day missed every week!

90% attendance over 5 years of school = $\frac{1}{2}$ a school year missed!

Please **help** us and your child by ensuring their attendance remains above **95%**, allowing them to **achieve** their potential

Caerphilly County Borough Council

Education Welfare Service

Attendance Matters



What does “**Good attendance**” mean?

Ways for parents to encourage attendance

- Find out **regularly** your child's attendance
- **Talk** with your child about school and how they feel about it.
- **Phone** the school as soon as possible to tell them why your child is absent, and when you expect them to return. The school number is: **01495 224111**
- Putting the school number into your phone can save you time. Know the school's routine for alerting you to absence.
- Only grant days at home for **genuine** illness (you will **know!**)
- **Avoid** taking holidays in school time.

Remember
PRAISE
for
good attendance



What the law says

- All children of compulsory school age (between 5 and 16) **must** receive a suitable full time education.
- As a parent you are responsible for making sure this happens, and you have a vital role in ensuring and promoting regular attendance at school.

You are the green person who will make a difference

- If your child fails to attend school regularly – even if they miss school without you knowing-, the Local Education Authority may take action.

What about authorised absences?

- There may be times when your child is ill, and this is to be expected.
- They may also have to go to the doctor or the dentist, but these appointments should be made **OUTSIDE** school hours.

What about holidays?

- Schools have the discretion to grant up to 10 days absence in a school year. Each application will be considered individually.
- Absences for holidays will **NOT** be authorised if your child's attendance is **below 95%**, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- Holiday forms can be obtained from the main school office.

Lateness

- Please ensure that your child is in school on time. Pupils who arrive late for school disrupt lessons and miss an important part of the school day.
- Persistent lateness after the register has closed is classed as unauthorised absence

What happens if my child does not attend school regularly?

- An Education Welfare Officer will visit or write to you to discuss the reason for your child not attending school
- You could also be prosecution for failing to ensure your child attends school regularly.

The Education Welfare Service

The Education Welfare Service (EWS) is a specialist support service, which works in partnership with schools and other agencies to provide a range of services for children and their families, as well as carrying out statutory functions.

Education Welfare Officers can:

- Support schools, pupils and parents to encourage children to attend regularly;
- Help children overcome problems that prevent them from attending school;
- Arrange education if a pupil is unable to attend school for several weeks / months.

They can also advise parents on:

- Education Law / Parental Rights;
- School Transport Policy;
- Children Changing Schools;.
- Children in Entertainment or employment

Should you wish to discuss your child's attendance please contact the Education Welfare Officer at your child's school.