

What can you do?

You can help prevent your child missing school by:

- making sure they understand the importance of good attendance and punctuality;
- asking them about their school work and encouraging them to get involved in activities;
- discussing any problems they may have at school and informing us about anything serious;
- only letting your child stay at home if they are too ill to come to school. If in doubt send them in – we can always send them home again if they get worse!
- arranging appointments out of school hours;
- not booking holidays during term time.

Remember: EVERY SECOND COUNTS!

Imagine if every time you watched your favourite television programme, you missed the first 10 minutes...you would miss part of the story and not enjoy it so much. That is what missing the beginning of the school day feels like – it spoils the whole day's learning.

Please make sure that your child arrives at school for the start of the school day at 8.55am.



For more information about school attendance please speak to the school office or make an appointment to see Mrs Hughes.

If you are finding it difficult to get your child to school, please let us know so we can help.



George Street Primary School

“Where Learning Comes Alive”

Attendance

Information for parents and carers



Did you know?

- Going to school regularly is important to your child's future. Children who miss school frequently fall behind in their work and do less well in exams.
- There are only 39 teaching weeks in the school year.
- Attending school 90% of the time means missing half a day of school per week. Over one year this is 4 weeks of school and during their education, half a year of schooling would be lost! This is known as persistent absence.
- Missing 6 days a term every year is the same as missing one whole school year!

Days off school add up to LOST LEARNING!

100% attendance	0 weeks missed of learning	Best chance of success Well done
95% attendance	1 week, 4 days of learning missed	

90% attendance	3 weeks, 4 days of learning missed	Persistent absence Risk of AiO penalty notice
85% attendance	5 weeks, 3 days of learning missed	

Our Policy and Guidelines

You:

- have a legal responsibility to ensure that your child attends school regularly **and on time**.
- must contact us if your child is absent and let us know why. Please see policy.

We will:

- follow up all instances of poor attendance and punctuality and keep you informed of your child's record.
- Contact you and ask for a reason if you do not tell us why your child is absent. If you do not provide a reason, the absence will be unauthorised.
- write to you if your child's attendance is less than 96% and remind you of the importance of good attendance.
- contact you again if your child's attendance does not improve.
- inform the Attendance Improvement Officer if your child's attendance falls below 90%.
- **not** authorise holidays taken during term time.
- apply to the Local Authority for a Penalty Notice to be issued to parents / carers who repeatedly fail to send their child to school on a regular basis.