

School Attendance

What parents & carers need to know



Why is good attendance important?

Regular attendance is essential for children to achieve their full potential. Pupils with higher attendance do better in school and achieve better grades.

Regular attendance is essential for children to get the most out of their school experience including attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances.



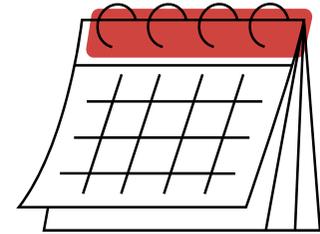
What does the law say?

The law in the UK requires that all children between the ages of 5 and 16 attend school regularly. As a parent or guardian, it is your responsibility to make sure your child attends school every day unless there is a valid reason for absence, such as illness. If your child is absent from school without a good reason, school may contact you to find out why. If your child's attendance is low, school may take further action such as involving the local authority or taking legal action. It's important to remember that regular attendance is important for your child's education and future success.



Attendance Matters

On time, first time, every time



Can we take a holiday?

Schools have a legal duty to make sure that children attend school regularly. Taking your child out of school during term time can have a negative impact on their learning and progress. Permission for a holiday during term time can only be granted in exceptional circumstances. If you take your child out of school without permission, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and could result in a fine. It's important to plan your holidays around school breaks, so your child doesn't miss out on important lessons and activities. Remember, your child's education is important and regular attendance at school is essential for their progress and future success.

What about medical appointments?

We encourage parents to make medical or dental appointments outside of school hours. If this is not possible, parents should get the school's agreement in advance and the child should only be out of school for the minimum amount of time necessary for the appointment. It's important to remember that regular attendance at school is important for your child's education and future success.

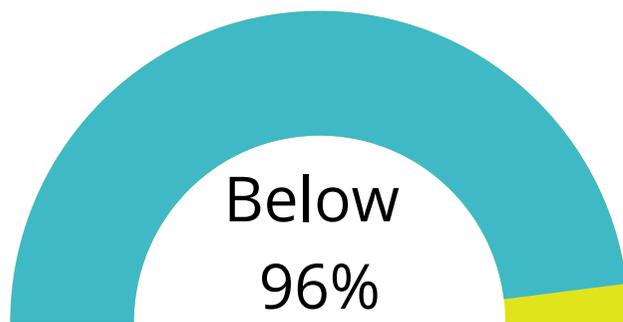
What can you do to help?

- Encourage good attendance by making sure your child attends school regularly
- Support our schools in our focus on improving attendance
- Inform us on the first day of absence and keep us up to date throughout the absence
- Tell us if you are struggling, we are here to help

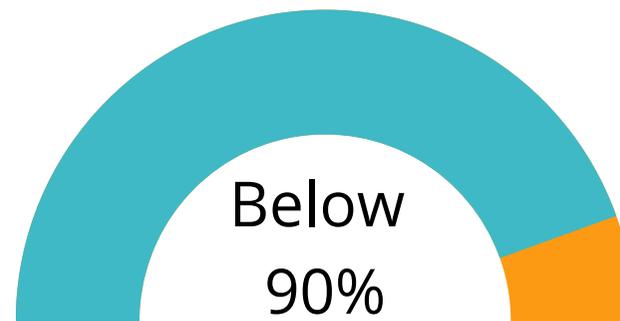
NEAT attendance approach

- We will monitor all attendance that falls below 97%
- We will celebrate good attendance
- We will work closely with our learners, parents and carers to identify and then overcome any barriers to good attendance
- We will contact home regularly and will make home visits to support good attendance
- Our trust attendance policy sets out how we will work together to improve attendance and can be found on all school and trust websites

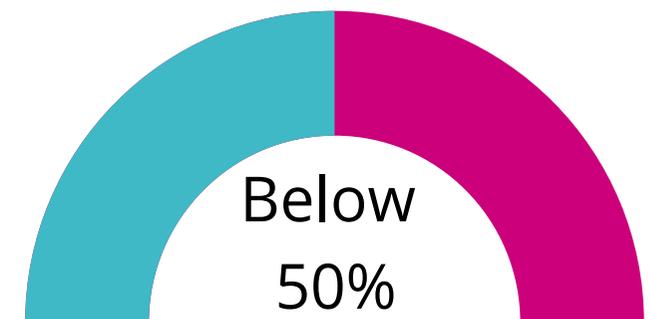
Good attendance is everybody's business



First wave of
intervention



Persistent
absence



Severe absence