



# ATTENDANCE



Poor attendance can have a direct impact on progress and attainment and we therefore expect all pupils to attend unless there is a very good reason for being absent. Attendance figures are generally required in references for pupils who leave school and apply for jobs, training or further education places. An absence is said to be authorised if caused through:

- Illness
- Attendance at a medical or dental appointment
- Personal reasons (eg: attendance at funerals or other family events)
- Approved sporting activities

Unauthorised absences are often counted as truancies. A pupil who falls below **90%** is considered to be a persistent absentee. Truancy can result in prosecution by the Education Inclusion Service.

If an absence is known in advance (eg: a medical appointment) the school must be informed beforehand.

It is not acceptable to be absent for a full day/session for routine check ups eg dental checks.

**It should be noted that it is the parents' responsibility to ensure that their child arrives at school. You are required by law to ensure that your child attends school regularly.**

Do you think that an attendance rate of 90% is good?

Some facts to think about

- 90% attendance means that you are absent from lessons for the equivalent of **one half day every week**;
- 90% attendance rate means that you have missed the equivalent of **four whole weeks** of lessons in the academic year;
- 90% attendance over five years means you have missed the equivalent of about **one half of an academic year**.

It is very difficult for you to achieve your academic targets if you are not actually in lessons!

**Pupils whose attendance falls below 95% are monitored by the school.**

How do we rate attendance?	
99% and above	Outstanding
98% and above	Good
96% and above	Satisfactory
Less than 96%	Poor