

Attendance

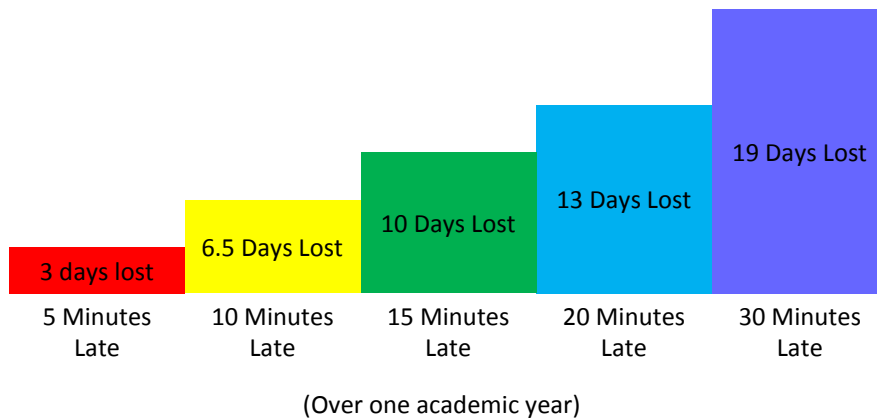
Attendance Matters

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life. Students who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do less well in exams. Good attendance shows potential employers that your child is reliable. Research suggests that students who attend school regularly could also be at less risk of getting involved in antisocial behaviour or crime. Below is a table showing how your child's percentage attendance equates to the amount of school time missed.

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent Days	Equivalent Sessions	Equivalent Weeks	Equivalent Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	18 Sessions	2 Weeks	54 Lessons
90%	19 Days	38 Sessions	4 Weeks	114 Lessons
85%	29 Days	58 Sessions	6 Weeks	174 Lessons
80%	38 Days	72 Sessions	8 Weeks	228 Lessons
75%	48 Days	96 Sessions	10 Weeks	288 Lessons
70%	57 Days	114 Sessions	11.5 Weeks	342 Lessons
65%	67 Days	134 Sessions	13.5 Weeks	402 Lessons

Every Minute Counts

If your child arrives late to school everyday, their learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school everyday over a school year adds up to lost learning time.



Just 17 days absent from school a year could mean a drop in a GCSE grade in all subjects!

Attendance Matters...

Our aim is for all children to achieve 95% attendance over the course of the year.

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring that their child arrives at school punctually. Children should arrive at the secondary phase no later than 8.35am and on the primary phase no later than 8.55am.

Information for Parents and Carers

Absence Line:-

01495 357755 Primary Phase

01495 354690 Secondary Phase

EWO: 01495 354648 Wendy Pople

What are the rules about School Attendance?

Partnership:

By Law we are required to keep accurate records of attendance. For this reason staff at Ebbw Fawr Learning Community will:

- Ask for notes and explanations from parents or carers for every single absence.
- Contact you about any unexplained absence.
- Let you know if your child's absence or lateness is of concern and work with you to find a way of improving it.

What about Absences?

- It's the parents' responsibility to let the school know the reason for their child's absence as soon as possible, on the first day of the absence.
- Parents and carers can only explain absences; they cannot authorise them.
- The school decides whether explanations about absences are acceptable and if they can be authorised.
- If your child has too many authorised or unauthorised absences, then some from school will contact you to find out what can be done to help get your child back into school regularly.

What parents and carers can do to help ensure good attendance at school:-

- ◆ Let your child know how important education is
- ◆ Ensure your child arrives punctually and is properly equipped
- ◆ Send your child to school **every day**
- ◆ Make time to encourage and show interest
- ◆ Attend school open evening and functions
- ◆ Avoid taking family holidays during school term time
- ◆ Check homework has been completed
- ◆ Make sure your child gets a good night rest

Attendance Matters Cont...

Absence can hide problems that we could be sorting out together:

- Staying away from school and not wanting to go to school for a variety of reasons (like tummy ache, feeling sick etc.) often means that there is something, which worrying your child.
- Even minor matter can be very big worries or concerns to your child. You may spot changes in the way your child usually behaves. Other thing may happen like sleepless nights, pretending to be sick or just looking for reasons to stay at home.

What can I do if my child refuses to attend school?

- Never cover for your child(ren)
- Make early contact with the school
- Help the school to put things right
- Make sure that your child understands that you do not approve of him/her being absent
- Let us know—we may be able to help

