

Attendance Matters



Children learn and develop more from birth to five years than at any other time in their lives and any gaps in their learning by the end of the Early Years will, on average, double by the end of their primary years.

Benefits of good attendance:

Good habits

It builds in young children the idea that getting up and going to school is simply what you do. Children who attend every day develop a feel for the rhythm of the week and gain a sense of security from regular routines.

Underachievement is linked to lower attendance. For some older students this is linked to a steadily deteriorating trend in attendance which is traceable right back to Foundation Stage. Establishing good habits early is the key to future success.



Secure relationships

Young children find it easier to build and sustain a range of social relationships when they regularly attend school.

Self – esteem

Children who rarely miss sessions at school and arrive on time are more likely to feel good about themselves. Children who regularly miss sessions, or are generally late, can frequently experience a sense of having to try a little bit harder just to understand what is going on and what other children are talking about or doing.

Learning and development

Children's learning develops quickly in the Early Years. For example, once phonics begins in Foundation, children are learning a new phoneme every day. This means any time lost creates gaps in learning



and the more gaps there are, the harder it is for children to catch up to their peers. Good attendance ensures that children can develop at the right pace, gain confidence as they make progress, and ultimately enjoy school as they see themselves succeed.

Every day lost = approximately 6 hours of learning

Every week lost = approximately 30 hours of learning

11 days lost = 94% attendance and 66 hours of learning time lost

19 days lost = 90% attendance, classed as a persistent absentee and 114 hours learning time lost



Parents can encourage good attendance by:

- having a regular bedtime and morning routine
- preparing for the morning routine by packing a bag the night before and setting out clothes
- talking together about all the fun their child will have at school
- arranging routine medical appointments, outings and holidays for the times their child does not attend nursery/ school if possible
- talking to their child's key worker if there are any concerns or anxieties
- working with their child to develop healthy hygiene practices

If you are facing difficulties getting your child into school, it is important to discuss this with school at the earliest opportunity.

We are here to help.



If we work together, we can ensure your child reaches their full potential.

Your child must start full-time education once they reach compulsory school age.

For pupils in the Early Years Foundation Stage of non-compulsory school age, the same legal obligations on school attendance do not apply. However, we recognise the importance of developing positive habits with regard to attendance and punctuality and aim to promote the value of good attendance with families. Therefore, the school adopts the same procedures outlined in our school's Attendance Policy where there are concerns about attendance and punctuality.

Useful Contacts

Telephone: 01604 765037

Email: office@wvps.northants.sch.uk



**Attendance
in the Early
Years**

Good attendance is essential right from the start.

All parents want the best for their children. Having a good education is important to ensure that children have the best opportunities in their adult life. They only get one chance at school, and your child's future may be affected by not attending school regularly.

Good habits must be formed right from the start of their school life.

