

Absence during term time

- Please avoid making routine medical appointments during the school day (doctors, dentists, opticians)
- No holidays are authorised. There are 190 statutory school days a year, so there are 175 other days (13 weeks) of school holidays and weekends.
- In the case of a family emergency requiring your child to miss school, please contact the school as soon as possible.
- If you have not informed the school office of your child's absence by 9.15, on the first day of absence, a text message or phone call will be made.

We thank you in advance for all your hard work and support in relation to this matter.

For further information, please see our website.

'Every day, half day and lesson matters.'

We expect at least 97% attendance by all pupils in our school.

High attendance is important in giving pupils the best chance of being successful at school and achieving their end of year expectations or better.

High attending pupils are able to get involved in the entire range of school life and all the different activities that are on offer in order to ensure they reach their full potential.

High attending pupils are able to develop:

- better social skills
- better friendship skills.

High attendance is particularly important:

- At the start and end of the school year when establishing new routines.
- Before and during examinations.
- Throughout the year when valuable teaching and group work is taking place that cannot be repeated.



Alexandra Infants' School Attendance Matters Information for Parents and Carers



What to do if your child cannot attend school

-Please contact the school office on the first day of absence before 9.15.

-Please explain the reason for absence and give an estimate of how long your child is likely to be absent.

-If your child's attendance drops below 97% a letter will be sent home to inform you and you will be invited to attend an attendance clinic with the Home School Link Worker and Attendance Governor in order to set targets to ensure that this improves.

-Poor attendees will be supported by the Educational Welfare Officer.

-Where attendance is a cause for concern the Educational Welfare Officer will visit the home to offer support on how to improve attendance.

-Poor attendance can lead to prosecution. Parents have the legal responsibility to ensure that their children are in school during term time.

-Children who are absent, should not be out in public places during the time 9.00 - 3.15pm.

Examples

Simon's attendance rate is always around 90%

He thinks this is pretty good!

However this actually means

He is absent from lessons for the equivalent of a half-day every week!

90% attendance for your child through Primary and Secondary school means they will have missed a whole year off school in their education.

Mary's attendance rate is always around 80%

She thinks that this is ok!

However, this actually means

She is absent from lessons for the equivalent of one day every week.

80% attendance for your child through Primary and Secondary school means they will have missed two years in their education!

All Learning and Working Together.

Our school contact for any issues relating to school attendance is our Home School Link Workers; Mrs Sally Adams or Mrs Faz Naveed.

All pupils in our school are aware of the National target. Each week during Attendance assembly a trophy for the best attendance is awarded to the winning class. The children's names are also put onto the Attendance Rocket. Certificates are given out each half term for pupils who have achieved 100% attendance. So keep up the hard work and get yourself to school!

We also monitor lateness rigorously as children need to be in school on time. (Gates open at 8.45am. Free Breakfast club from 8.30am.) The children can receive a sticker in exchange for prizes each morning for being in and on time!

For our children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and your child should be at school, on time, every day the school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable.

Together we can strive for Excellence.