



Attendance Matters

at Hill View Primary School

ATTEND TODAY
ACHIEVE TOMORROW



Good attendance at school is the single most important factor to ensure that young people have the maximum life chances – attendance is strongly linked to educational achievement. Promoting positive school attendance is everyone's responsibility.

Good attendance is important in order for children to:

- Achieve their potential.
- Develop a positive attitude towards school and maintain good habits of punctuality and attendance.
- See themselves as an important part of the school community and to value and respect school life.

Schools recognise that this can only be achieved through a close partnership with parents.

Questions to Consider:

- Do you know what your child's current attendance and/or punctuality figure is?
- Do you know what this figure means?
- Do you speak to you child about their attendance?
- Do you communicate with Hill View when your child is not in school?

It is a legal obligation of all parents/carers to ensure their child attends school regularly. By law all children of compulsory school age (5-17) must get a proper full-time education. Parents are responsible for ensuring children attend school regularly in a condition to learn.

Children should be in school by 8.45am and in class to register by 8.55am. Parents should contact the school as soon as possible if a child is going to be absent or late for any reason e.g. doctor, dentist. The school has a dedicated phone line for reporting absence. The absence line is

Parents may be required to provide medical evidence to substantiate that their child's illness required them to be absent from school. i.e. some form of medical verification.

Attendance below 90% is considered to be poor and your child will be classified as being persistently absent.

What does 90% mean?

90% attendance = ½ day missed every week. Over one school year this is a 4 weeks of learning lost.

Punctuality matters too. Missed minutes = missed learning = missed opportunities.

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

- Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to 3 days lost each year
- Arriving 15 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 2 weeks a year
- Arriving 30 minutes late every day is the same as being absent 19 days a year

Some strategies to improve punctuality:

Bedtime routines – Packing school bag ready for the next day, getting to bed earlier, setting a time for the television, iPad/computer and other devices to be turned off.

Morning Routines – Setting the alarm earlier, no television until ready for school, having breakfast before leaving home.

Coming to Toast Club for Breakfast at 8.00am each day (small cost)

Key Messages

Your child's attendance and punctuality is being monitored all the time. Pupils with low attendance and punctuality will be highlighted and given extra support to improve this.

At Hill View School 97% or above is considered to be good attendance. Appointments should be booked for out of school hours. Holidays are NOT permitted in the school term.