

## 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 uniform.
- Talking together about the school day.
- Arranging routine medical appointments outside school hours.
- Talking to their child's teacher 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.**



**The World is run by those who turn up.**

Attending school everyday = 100% attendance

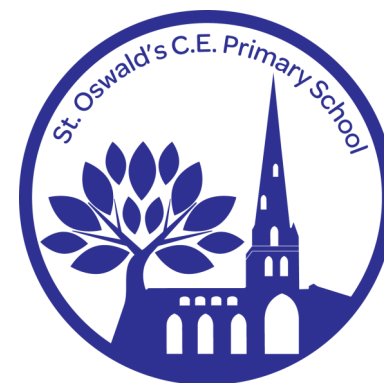
Attending school 4.5 days a week = 90% = 4 weeks missed of school per year

Attending school 4 days a week = 80% attendance = more than half a term missed per year.

An average attendance of 80% or less across a child's school career adds up to missing a whole 2 years from school.

**Punctuality is just as important. Make every minute count!**

Being late for school reduces learning time. If your child is 5 minutes late every day they will miss three days of learning each year. If your child is 15 minutes late every day they will miss 2 weeks learning each year



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

**Regular school attendance is an important part of giving children the best possible start in life.**

**Attendance and Punctuality- The Facts**

## Why is it important for children not to miss school?

All parents want the best for their children and for them to get on well in life. Having a good education is important to ensure that they 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 or alternative provision regularly.

If children don't attend school regularly they may;

- Struggle to keep up with school work. In a busy school day it is difficult for schools to find the extra time to help a child catch up.
- Miss out on the social side of school life. Poor attendance can affect children's ability to make and keep friendships; a vital part of growing up.

Setting good attendance patterns from an early age- from nursery through primary school will help your child later in their life. Children who have a poor school attendance record may have less chance of securing a job when they are adults.

## Why is punctuality important?

Being on time is vital. Arriving late for school can be very disruptive for your child, their teacher and the other children in the class. It is important that children understand the importance of time keeping and being organised.

There may be times when parents are finding it difficult to ensure their child's attendance. If this is the case it is important to talk to the school as soon as possible.

## What might the impact of poor attendance be on your child?

In primary school less than 65% of children achieve good results in English and Maths with an average of 15 days absence a year compared to almost 90% where the average is less than 8 days. It is surprising at how quickly you can accumulate 15 days absence a year.

Poor attendance impacts on your child's progress.

### Attendance Ladder



Research shows pupils who are not in school can become vulnerable.

## What does the law say?

By law all children who are of compulsory school age (5-16 years) must receive a suitable full time education. As a parent you are responsible for making sure that this happens.

Once your child is registered at a school you are responsible for making sure they attend regularly.

If your child fails to attend school regularly then the local authority will take action against you.

## Attendance Matters



What happens if your child does not attend school regularly?

Your child's school is responsible by law for reporting poor attendance to the Local Authority. As a parent you are committing an offence if you fail to make sure that your child attends school regularly.

You run the risk of being issued with a penalty notice or being taken to court. The LA may decide to prosecute a parent.

If your child is going to be absent from school it is essential that you follow the schools absence procedures. These can be found on the school website;

[www.stoswaldsschool.co.uk](http://www.stoswaldsschool.co.uk)

<https://www.stoswaldsschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=114&type=pdf>

You should contact the school office before 9.30am on the first day of absence.