

## School Matters!



Good attendance is key to your child being able to fulfil their potential and make good progress in school. One of the most important ways a parent/carer can support the education of their child and the child's social, emotional and academic development is to ensure they attend every day and on time.

### Attendance & Absence

#### Attendance and Requests for leave of absence

EYFS and KS1 - class teachers come out at 8.35am and collect the children from the front playground. Children must be supervised by their parents/carers. The side gate will be then locked by 8.45am. Anyone coming in after that, are able to come in through the front door.

KS2 children (and EYFS/KS1 children if unable to be supervised by parents/carers) can go on the back playground from 8.25. The doors are opened from 8.35am.

Learning starts at 8.50am

School finishes at 3.15pm.

We expect pupils to arrive and to be collected punctually at the start and end of each day.

**Every Day Counts!** It is vital that pupils attend school, on time, every day in order to gain the greatest benefit from their education.

95% - 100% (less than 10 days absence in a year) is good attendance

95% is the national average attendance rate for a child at primary school.

There is no automatic entitlement in law to time off in school time.

All requests for a leave of absence must be made in advance either in writing or by completion of the school form; 'Application for absence in term time', which is available

<https://www.threemilestone.cornwall.sch.uk/our-school/how-we-do-things/policies-documents/>

Absence requests are only authorised in exceptional circumstances.

#### Frequently Asked Questions

##### Q. What is a good attendance percentage?

A. 95 - 100% (less than 10 days absence in a year) is good attendance. 95% is the national average attendance rate for a child at primary school.

**Q. What is poor attendance?**

A. Anything below 95% attendance is worrying as your child has less chance of success. It makes it harder for the child to progress if they are missing key learning opportunities.

**Q. What will happen if my child's attendance falls below 95%?**

A. Schools monitor pupil attendance every half term. You may be sent a letter or you may be invited to speak to Ms Teagle, who can offer you support. The Education Welfare Officer from the Local Authority, will also be informed if Ms Teagle feels necessary.

**Q. Isn't my child entitled to 10 days holiday or odd days off for long weekends?**

A. No. The School may only authorise an absence in exceptional circumstances. Examples of exceptional circumstances are noted on the Attendance Policy.

**Q. What is meant by genuine medical reasons to be absent?**

A. Diarrhoea, sickness, childhood ailments e.g. measles, chicken pox, extremely high temperatures are genuine illness. Children should not stay home if they have minor coughs, colds, tummy aches and headaches. If your child is too poorly to remain at the school, the school will contact you. Please remember that even absence due to genuine medical reasons still affect a child's attendance.

**Q. What should I do if my child is absent?**

A. Contact the school on the first day and subsequent days of absence to explain their absence.

**REMEMBER EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS TOWARDS YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS**

*Surely 1 or 2 days absent a week doesn't seem much but this is how it is..*

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

Punctuality counts too!

*If your child is late 10 minutes a day - surely that won't matter or affect my child..*

Only missing just..	That equals..	Which is...	Over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year
20 minutes per day	1hour 40minutes per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years