



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

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 often linked to lower attendance. For some older students this is linked to a steadily deteriorating trend in attendance which is traceable right back to Reception. 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 nursery/school.

Self – esteem

Children who rarely miss sessions at nursery/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 Reception 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 develop at the right pace, gain confidence as they make progress, and ultimately enjoy school as they see themselves succeed.

Every day lost = approx 6 hours of learning

Every week lost = approx 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

