



**CORNWALL
COUNCIL**
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Together 
for Families

Attendance

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Belonging

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Post-covid attendance landscape

- The aftermath of the global pandemic has left a mark on the education sector.
- Concerns about attendance and absence rates have taken centre stage across the nation.
- In the ever-evolving landscape of education, parents/carers play a pivotal role in shaping the academic journey of their children.
- One of the key factors contributing to a child's success in school is consistent and excellent attendance. The high levels of absenteeism during the peak of the pandemic have risen further still and have become more entrenched in some
- This discussion explores the pressing issues surrounding school attendance post-pandemic and what parents/carers can do to support their child's excellent attendance.



Why is good attendance so important?

- One of the main advantages of regular school attendance is academic success.
- Students who attend classes regularly are more likely to have an enhanced learning experience
- In addition to academic advantages, regular attendance also fosters positive social and emotional development.



Find out what's going on for your child

- Young people might show they're feeling anxious about school by:
- not wanting to get up and get ready
- saying they can't go
- worrying a lot about small issues, such as having the right equipment for a lesson
- feeling sick, or having stomach aches or headaches
- not sleeping well
- not doing schoolwork, or their grades dropping
- being angry or upset, or acting out – at school or at home
- withdrawing – seeming low, quiet or depressed



Work with your school

- 1. Ask for a meeting with the class teacher or tutor group lead, the pastoral lead or the school's SENCO.
- 2. Make notes of what to say beforehand, and during the meeting go through the specific things your child is finding difficult. Ask the teacher whether they have noticed any situations that seem particularly challenging for your child.
- 3. If you and your child have already identified some things that might help, ask for specific changes. If you're not sure where to start, you can ask them what changes the school can offer
- 4. Take notes during the meeting, agree any changes you're going to try, and follow up with them afterwards by email.
- 5. Arrange a time when you will check-in again to see if things have improved, allowing some time for your child to try out the new change or routine.



When can my child miss school?

- There are only a small number of circumstances where missing a school day is permitted. Your child must attend every day that the school is open, unless:
- Your child is too ill to attend.
- You have asked in advance and been given permission by the school for your child to be absent on a specific day due to exceptional circumstances.
- Your child cannot go to school on a specific day because they are observing a religious event.
- Your local authority is responsible for arranging your child's transport to school and it's not available or has not been provided yet.
- Your child does not have a permanent address and you are required to travel for work. This exception only applies if your child attends their usual school or another school where you are staying as often as possible. This must be 200 half days or more a year if they are aged 6 or older.

Thank you / Meur ras

