



Every day matters!

Promoting good attendance

at

Beaconside Primary and Nursery school



Ambition



Communication



Independence



Reflection



Responsibility

Why is regular school attendance so important for my child?

Regular attendance means your child can make the most of their education, improving their chances in adult life. It will help your child's social skills, such as making and keeping friendships. A regular and punctual attendance pattern will also help your child when they enter the world of work.

What are my responsibilities regarding my child's school attendance?

By law, all children of compulsory school age (5 to 16) must receive a suitable full-time education. As a parent/carer, you have a legal responsibility to make sure this happens - either by registering your child at a school or by making other arrangements to give them a suitable, full-time education. Once your child is registered at a school, you are legally responsible for making sure they attend regularly.

The local Authority has a duty to make sure that all parents/carers fulfil this responsibility.

Absence

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

The table below details how much time and learning is missed based on attendance percentages.

0 Days off School	100% Attendance	Perfect	0 missed lessons
2 Days off School	99% Attendance	Excellent	10 missed lessons
5 Days off School	97% Attendance	Good	25 missed lessons
9 Days off School	95% Attendance	Slight Concern	45 missed lessons
19 Days off School	90% Attendance	Persistently Absent	95 missed lessons
29 Days off School	85% Attendance	Persistently Absent	145 missed lessons
38 Days off School	80% Attendance	Persistently Absent	190 missed lessons
90 Days off School	50% Attendance	Severely Absent	450 missed lessons

What will happen if my child does not attend school regularly?

- The school will contact you by letter or in person to raise any concerns about your child's attendance. A meeting may be requested in which further reasons will be discussed and possible strategies to support improving your child's attendance.
- The school will continue to monitor your child's attendance and will be in contact again if it does not improve.
- If there is not an improvement in attendance and patterns of significant absence continue, school will report this to the local authority. In rare circumstances this may lead to prosecution.

How can I help my child attend school regularly?

Create a Positive Routine

- Having an organised routine, particularly at bedtime and in the morning not only helps your child in getting enough sleep, but will reduce stress or anxiety and make the transition to school easier.

Communicate the Importance of School

- Explaining the value of education to your child will help them to see how it helps them develop skills, make friends and explore their interests. It can also be linked to future success, whether it's a dream job or a special talent they want to develop. Take a positive interest in your child's work, including homework.

Monitor your Child's Attendance

- The Scholarpack App allows parents to see their child's attendance percentage and a simple view of days when they are present or absent (shown in green or red). Please contact the school office or class teacher if there are any records you are unsure about.

Address any Barriers

- As a school, we will always do our utmost to accommodate any reasonable adjustments to help your child attend school. Please speak to your child's class teacher or a member of the leadership team to discuss any barriers you feel are affecting your child's attendance.

Involve the School

- Please keep in touch with teachers to stay informed about your child's progress or any concerns. Parent teacher meetings are scheduled every term, or please ask to be contacted by your child's teacher, or other member of staff. Engagement in school activities such as after school clubs can also increase motivation to attend school.

Stay Positive about School

- Speak positively about school and learning, so your child sees it as something valuable and enjoyable.

Be Responsible with Absences

- Sometimes it is unavoidable where hospital or doctors' appointments are concerned, but where possible try schedule appointments out of school time. If your child is absent, please also inform school with the reason for your child's absence. Be truthful about your child's absence. Sometimes we receive messages from parents about a child's illness, and when the child returns to school they tell staff about going on holiday. This puts the school and staff in a difficult position.

If Necessary, Create a Reward System

- If you find your child is sometimes reluctant to come to school, offer small rewards such as a treat after the school day. Link this to what motivates your child and change it regularly. Children will then associate coming to school with positive outcomes.

How will regular school attendance help my child?

Regular attendance is a key factor in ensuring children make good progress. At Beaconside we try to give your child a wide range of learning opportunities and experiences in the form of a creative curriculum, educational trips and school clubs, allowing them to develop their interests and achieve their full potential.

Regular school attendance means that your child can make the most of their education. Therefore, continuity of learning is essential.