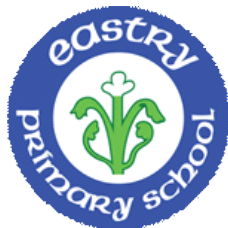


If we have reasons to believe your child is absent without a genuine reason, we could take action or discuss your child with the Local Authority.

If your child is not going to be in school, remember to call us each day of absence on **01304 611360** or email **office@eastry.kent.sch.uk**



Cooks Lea, Eastry, Kent, CT13 0LR

Tel: 01304 611360



Illness, Attendance and Absence from School

Making an Informed Decision



A guide for parents and carers

Why is it important for your child to attend school regularly?

- ✓ It gives your child the best possible start to life
- ✓ They will be able to keep up with their learning
- ✓ They will have a better future employment
- ✓ They will be at less risk of becoming a victim of crime
- ✓ They will be less likely to become involved in anti-social behavior
- ✓ It is the law.

Why is it important for your child to be punctual?

Persistent lateness can be legally counted as unauthorised absence, which can...

- ✗ Cause disruption to the rest of the class
- ✗ Cause embarrassment to the child
- ✗ Make it harder for the child to settle as they may have missed vital instructions
- ✗ Being 15 minutes late each day during an entire school year is the same as missing two whole weeks of school

| He/She is only missing just... | That equals..... | Which is.... | And over 13 years of schooling that's..... |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 10 minutes per day | 50 minutes per week | Nearly 1½ weeks per year | Nearly ½ a year |
| 20 minutes per day | 1 hour 40 mins per week | Over 2½ weeks per year | Nearly 1 year |
| 30 minutes per day | ½ a day per week | 4 weeks per year | Nearly 1½ years |
| 1 hour per day | 1 day per week | 8 weeks per year | Over 2½ years |

Being punctual:

- ✓ Shows your child is ready and willing to work
- ✓ Helps to develop a sense of responsibility
- ✓ Forms good habits



THE CONSEQUENCE OF NON-ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE: THE FACTS

What is the Law?

Children of compulsory school age (5 to 16 years) must, by law receive a full time education.

It is the compulsory responsibility of the Local Education Authority to ensure that this happens and it is the parent's responsibility to register their child with a school or make other suitable arrangements and inform the Local Authority.

Penalty Notice Proceedings for Poor Attendance - Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Kent County Council's Education Penalty Notices Code of Conduct effective from January 2016, revised June 2020.

A Penalty Notice can be issued in cases of persistent unauthorized absence. Absence for 10 or more half day sessions (5 school days) without authorization during any 100 possible school sessions - these do not have to be consecutive.

Ensure you avoid booking holidays during term time.

Each person with parental responsibility could be taken to court and fined up to £2,500, or sentenced to three months in prison, for each

Remember 3 days absence in a month due to illness would still mean your child may be counted as a persistent absentee.

If your child needs a medical appointment try and make it out of school hours.

If your child is ill and you are unsure whether they could be in school ring and talk it through with the staff.

Always notify the school each and every day your child is absent due to illness explaining the reason for absence.

There is no need to keep your child away from school if they have:

Cold sores, Glandular Fever, Head Lice, Threadworms, Tonsillitis, Cold, Ringworm, Warts, Verrucae, Slapped Cheek.

Make sure you get treatment for the conditions.

Keep your child at home with the following guidelines:

| Illness | Return to school |
|--|--|
| Sickness and diarrhoea | 48 hours from the last bout of vomiting/diarrhoea. Doctor's confirmation needed if symptoms persist |
| Whooping cough | 48 hours from start of antibiotics. 21 days from start if no antibiotics. |
| Flu | Medically diagnosed |
| Chicken Pox | When all vesicles have crusted over |
| German Measles | 4 days from onset of rash |
| Scabies | After 1st treatment |
| Impetigo | 48 hours after antibiotics or until lesions are scabbed over. |
| Scarlet Fever | 24 hours after starting antibiotics |
| Covid – 19 (1 or more of the 3 symptoms or a positive lateral flow test) | If have a positive Covid-19 test remain at home for 3 days and may return after 3 days if they no longer have a temperature. If not taken a test, remain at home until they no longer have a high temperature |

Breaking it Down:

If a student has **90%** attendance. What does it look like?

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| M AM | M PM | T AM | T PM | W AM | W PM | T AM | T PM | F AM | F PM |
| / | \ | / | \ | o | \ | / | \ | / | \ |
| / | \ | / | \ | / | \ | / | \ | / | \ |

90% attendance is the equivalent of being absent from school half a day **EVERY WEEK.**

The SHOCK Factor

In one school year 90% equals FOUR WHOLE WEEKS of missed lessons. If the same student continues to attend only 90% of the year for the time they are at Eastry Primary School they will miss a total of 28 weeks. That is half a school year lost!

“The Government’s guideline is **100% ATTENDANCE**”

WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD STAY OFF?

KEEPING YOUR CHILD IN SCHOOL

Attendance Percentage

The school year is made up of 190 days

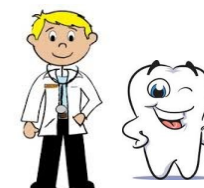
Aim for 100% attendance

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 100% Attendance | = | 0 days off |
| 95% Attendance | = | 9 days off |
| 90% Attendance | = | 18 days off |
| 85% Attendance | = | 27 days off |
| 80% Attendance | = | 36 days off |

If your child is away from school for any reason it will have an impact on their learning.

As a parent it is natural to want the best for your child and so you want to take care of them when they are ill.

However, we know that sometimes parents keep their children away from school when it is not strictly necessary to do so.



“A check up - can it be made outside of school time.....

So make the appointment after school

If every child achieved 100% attendance that would be fantastic. However, realistically we understand that genuine illness and exceptional circumstances can sometimes prevent school attendance.

If your child has an medical appointment during the school day please provide the school with a copy of the appointment letter.