

Attendance and Punctuality Facts

At Maharishi School, we believe that regular attendance at school is essential to ensure progress and to enable children to unfold their full potential. Pupils cannot achieve their full potential if they do not regularly attend school. Good attendance is fundamental to a successful and fulfilling school experience.

At Maharishi School, we are committed to:

- Promoting and modelling good attendance.
- Rewarding regular attendance.
- Ensuring equality and fairness for all.
- Ensuring parents follow the framework set in section 7 of the Education Act 1996, which states "It shall be the duty of the parent of every child of compulsory school age to cause him to receive efficient full-time education, suitable to his age, ability and aptitude and to any special educational needs he may have either by regular attendance at school or otherwise."

Attendance & Achievement

95-100%	Best chance of success	Your child is taking full advantage of every opportunity.
90-95%	At least 2 weeks of learning is missed	Satisfactory. Your child might have to spend time catching up on work
85-90%	At least 4 weeks of learning missed	Your child might be at risk of underachieving and may need extra support in order to catch up
80-85%	At least 5.5 weeks of learning missed	Your child's poor attendance has a significant negative impact on their learning
Below 80%	At least 7.5 weeks of learning missed	Your child is missing out on a broad and balance education. You are at risk of prosecution

What Absence will NOT be authorised

- Illness of a parent
- Holidays
- Day trips/Long weekends
- Birthday or other family celebrations
- Visits to family abroad or families working abroad
- Surprise visits or trips booked without knowledge

Did you know that the Attendance Officer meets regularly with the Head to look at attendance rates and cross references these with pupil's current progress and attainment scores? These are fed back to parents as well as to the Governing Body.

Are you having problems with:

- Getting your child to bed at night or out of bed in the morning
- Finding uniform, school books or bags?
- Your child eating breakfast slowly?
- Your child not having done their homework?
- Your child watching too much TV or spending too much time on electronic gadgets?
- Your child getting anxious about school work or tests?
- Your child asking for a day off because of birthdays or other family events?



Then have you tried this:

- Establishing set times and routines for bedtime?
- Asking your child to prepare their school bag and uniform the night before?
- Establishing a set time for breakfast where the family eat together?
- Having a daily homework slot?
- Limiting TV viewing or screen time on other devices to a set period each evening and morning?
- Talking about school in a positive way and speaking to your child's class teacher about any concerns/anxieties?
- Being firm - insist on your child coming to school on their birthday?

Punctuality

As well as regular attendance at school, parents need to ensure that their child arrives at school in good time each morning.

Being late for school has many negative consequences:

- Gets the day off to a bad start;
- Increases stress and upset for your child;
- Can lead to your child feeling embarrassed;
- Affects your child's overall confidence;
- Disrupts the learning of other class members;
- Creates bad habits which could lead to poor attendance;
- Confusion for your child as work or activities might have started

5 mins late every day = 3.4 days of lost learning a year
10 mins late every day = 6.9 days of lost learning a year
15 mins late every day = 10.3 days of lost learning a year