

What an absence means for your child?

If a child is consistent at gaining 90% attendance it sounds pretty good but what does it mean?

90% attendance a year means they are missing the equivalent of:

- ½ day of school missed every **week**
- 4 weeks of school missed a **year** or
- 1 whole year over the child's **school life**

Research by the DfE suggests that a child absent from school for 17 days each academic year equals a whole GCSE grade drop in achievement.

What is the impact?

Even a few days absence can impact on a child's progress:

Children with **less than 6 days** absence = 91% achieved at least 5 GCSE's

Whereas those with **more than 12 days** = 36% achieved at least 5 GCSE's

At primary school level, where pupils missing up to 14 days of school in key stage two are a quarter less likely to achieve level five or above in reading, writing or maths tests than those with no absence.

So, 90% is not as good as it first seemed.

Please help your child reach their maximum potential by ensuring they are at school every day. If your child is ill, please contact the school the first morning of absence. Medical evidence will be requested for any absence due to illness five days or more. If your child needs time off to attend a medical appointment, where possible try to arrange these outside of school hours. Absences for other reasons will only be authorised where parents can show the Headteacher exceptional circumstances exist.

If you have any concerns regarding attendance please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Absence from School

Absence during one school year	Days Absent	Weeks absent	Number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11½ weeks	290 lessons
65%	67 days	13½ weeks	340 lessons