

# Attendance Matters



## Attendance in the Early Years

Good attendance is essential right from the start. Children learn and develop more from birth to five years than in any other time in their lives. Ensuring children attend school helps build positive routines that will continue throughout their school lives.

## Learning and development

### Play is not just playing!

Through play children develop their language skills, their emotions and creativity as well as social and intellectual skills. They learn to problem solve and build relationships. School provides many opportunities for children to learn through play in Nursery and Reception. Play is at the heart of all we do, encouraging curiosity, independence and resilience. Attending every day ensures children do not miss out on these learning opportunities.



## On time and on target

### Punctuality is the first step toward success!

Arriving late can cause some children to feel anxious as they go into class by themselves when everyone else is settled and have started their learning. They miss out on the start of the lesson and find it hard to understand what they need to do. We understand that some days you may be running late but remember every moment at school counts.

**LATENESS**  
How much time can you lose?  
—  
in one school year  
**5 MINUTES**  
late each day



**= 3**  
days off



## The benefits of attendance

Even when you are very small attendance makes a big difference .

Your child can:

- Make friends and learn social skills .
- Build good habits for school, future learning and adulthood.
- Play, learn and have fun.
- Develop in all areas.

## What can you do?

Your enthusiasm and encouragement will help your child to enjoy their early years experiences and develop a positive attitude for school life.

You can:

- Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings, so your child is prepared for the day ahead.
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time (not late).
- Talk together about school and the fun things they will do there.
- Always inform school if your child is going to be absent.
- Take family holidays out of term time .
- Discuss any problems or difficulties with school - staff will always be supportive .



## We are here to support you

Should you wish to discuss your child's attendance or need any support, please contact The Attendance Team 0113 323 0010

