

## Ways for parents to encourage good attendance . . .

1. Find out about your child's absence regularly and check if this matches your own records.
2. Talk regularly with your child about school and how they feel about it. They are more likely to attend school if they feel supported and their anxieties are listened to.
3. Phone the school as soon as possible to tell them why your child is absent and when you expect them to return.
4. Only grant days at home for **genuine** illnesses such as sickness. *A headache or cold isn't severe enough for a child to have time off school.*
5. Avoid taking holidays in term time. These may result in a penalty notice (fine) issued by the Local Authority.
6. Know the routines of the school days to avoid issues. *Ensure your child has everything they need to attend school each day.*
7. If you have concerns, talk to a relevant member of staff at school.
8. Praise and reward good attendance at school. *We do this regularly in school, but parents can also praise their children!*

**For further advice contact Nanpean School or the Education Welfare Service.**

## 'Good School Attendance' What does it mean?



**Raise your child's attendance: raise their chances!**

At Nanpean School, we value the importance of good attendance and recognise that pupils with good attendance achieve better at school. Our

ultimate aim is an ambitious target of **97% attendance for each child, although we are aware that the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted this.** 97% attendance means all children need to be in school at least 97% of the time (which equates to a maximum of 5 days absence for the whole school year).

Of course, some children will have unavoidably longer absences for medical reasons, so it is important that all children aim for 100% attendance wherever possible.

The Government expects no child to have attendance below 96% (which equates to a maximum of 7 days absence for the whole school year) and any child with an attendance rate below 90% will be classed as '**persistently absent**'. This will trigger involvement of the Student Welfare Officer and can result in court action.

**At Nanpean School, we do not authorise any holidays during term time unless they meet the criteria on the exceptional circumstances list.**

**If your child attends school for only 90% in one school year it is the same as having a half day off every week. This is practically part time. Would your boss at work allow you to be off work this often?**

**Let's look a little closer. . . . .**

**1 school year at 90% attendance  
= 4 whole weeks of lessons MISSED!!!**

**This is a BIG GAP in learning and decreases your child's life chances.**

**Below, absence is broken down further so that parents / families are aware how much time a child**

**misses in their education as a result of high absence and low attendance.**

### **Attendance over 1 school year**

Percentage...	Weeks absent from school
96%....	over 1 week
95%....	2 weeks
90%....	4 weeks
85%....	5.5 weeks
80%....	7.5 weeks

### **Attendance over 5 school years**

Percentage...	Weeks absent from school
96%....	5.5 weeks
95%....	9.5 weeks
90%....	19 weeks (half a school year)
85%....	28.5 weeks
80%....	38 weeks (one whole school year missed)