

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to let the school know if my child has been absent?

Yes—You should notify the school beforehand when your child will be absent or when your child returns to school if advance notice is not possible.

Can I take my child out of school for family or social occasions?

No—You should arrange vacations, visits to family and friends, and doctor/dentist appointments outside of school hours.

Does the occasional absence from school really affect my child's education?

Yes—Research shows that on average higher student attendance is associated with higher student achievement.

What should I do if my child refuses to go to school?

Contact the school as soon as possible for advice and support.

Information Provided by:



LakeCounty

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Every Day Counts
School Attendance—
Responsibilities of Parents and
Caregivers

Every Day Counts

Every day counts... because children achieve better when they attend school all day, every day.

Every day counts... because going to school means getting a better chance at life.

Every day counts... because school helps children build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.

Every day counts... because going to school is a legal requirement.

What the Law Says

- Under the law, you must make sure your child is enrolled and attends all school days unless you have a valid reason for the absence.
- Your child must not be absent from school for minor reasons.
- Under the law, schools monitor students' attendance and follow up with parents and caregivers regarding all unexcused absences.
- Reasons for valid absences (excused): verifiable illness, religious holiday, death in the family, and family emergency



What You Can Expect from the School

- Monitoring of student attendance
- Parent notification if your child is not at school
- Follow-up on unexcused absences as soon as possible
- Effective teaching strategies to engage your child in learning
- Strategies to help you to encourage your child to go to school
- Additional support for ongoing attendance issues

Support for families

If your child does not want to go to school, or is missing school without you knowing, contact your school immediately for assistance and support.