

Practicalities

- ☺ You need to make attendance a priority.
- ☺ It is the parents' responsibility to contact the school to report any absence.
- ☺ **Tel 01273 454066**
- ☺ **First Call System:** If a child is absent in the morning and the school has not received an explanation by 9.45am, we will text and/or telephone home.
- ☺ You should send a note into school upon your child's return, explaining the reason for absence.
- ☺ Your child should return to school as soon as he/she is able to do so.
- ☺ If you have ANY concerns about attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the Headteacher.

Attendance Facts

If your child attends school **100%** they will be able to make the best of all the opportunities available to them.

Children who attend above 95% are more likely to gain 5 or more A-C GCSEs or equivalent qualifications.

If your child has **90%** over the whole 11 years at school, they will have missed over one year's education!

91.1% attendance = missing 17 days of school in one year.

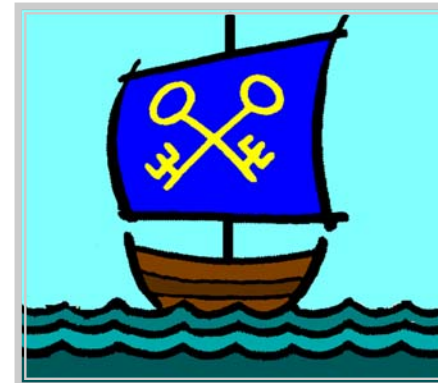
Missing 17 days a year also means dropping 1 GCSE grade (on average).

Children with less than 85% attendance are unlikely to gain 5 A*- C GCSEs.

82.1% attendance = missing 34 days of school in one year.

If your child has **80%** attendance over the whole 11 years at school, they will miss over TWO years education!

Poor attendance like this will have a serious impact on education and life chances.



We can only teach those who attend

Punctual and regular school attendance is an essential requirement for successful learning from the time a child starts school

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

St Peter's Catholic Primary School
Sullington Way, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex
BN43 6PJ Tel: 01273 454066

Email: office@stpetersshoreham.co.uk

Website: www.stpeterscatholicprimary.com

Holidays

In total there are 175 non-school days a year. This gives families the opportunity to:

- ☺ Spend time together
- ☺ Go on family visits and days out
- ☺ Go on holiday
- ☺ Go shopping
- ☺ Attend routine appointments

If your child has a holiday of 1 week during term time and 10 days of illness, they would miss 75 hours of education in an academic year. If this pattern were to be repeated throughout your child's school life, they would miss almost a year of their education.

Children who go on holiday for a week during the term, may miss out on more than one week of work. Before they go on holiday, they can be distracted and afterwards they may not be able to access learning because they have missed out on part of their learning journey.

Case Studies

A parent contacted a school regarding problems that their child was having at play times. It became clear that the child was finding it difficult to make and keep friends because the child was having significant time off school.

A teacher complained that she had to give up her lunchtime to help a child having difficulties in maths. The child had been on a term time holiday and had therefore missed vital maths lessons.

A new child was finding it difficult to integrate into a class. He had missed end of term activities when "not much is done" but friendships and good memories are created. "Social" aspects of school life are an important part of the curriculum.

Wherever possible please make medical and dental appointments outside of school hours



Illness

If your child is likely to be off school for more than a couple of days, please contact the school as there will be work your child is able to complete at home so they do not fall too far behind.

Be Safe

Persistent absentees are statistically more likely to become teenage parents, unemployed or homeless or to engage in petty crime and drug abuse.

Good attenders are less likely to fall into these dangers. A persistent absentee is a child who misses on average one day of school each week throughout the academic year.

**Under 85% attendance =
A PERSISTENT ABSENTEE**

**Please ask at the school office for a copy of
our Attendance Policy.**

The Law

The Education Act 1996 requires parents to ensure their children of compulsory school age receive efficient full-time education. The law says that parents/carers whose children of compulsory school age are absent from school without good reason are committing an offence.

Amendments have been made to the 2006 Education Regulations removing references to family holidays and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make it clear that Headteachers may not grant **any** leave of absence during term time unless there are "exceptional circumstances" - see below.

Unauthorised absence includes:

- ☺ Arriving after the register has closed at 9.20 a.m.
- ☺ Days out
- ☺ Shopping trips
- ☺ Birthday treats involving absence
- ☺ Visiting relatives
- ☺ Extra days tagged onto weekends
- ☺ Holidays—unless there are "exceptional circumstances".

A referral will be made to WSCC for consideration of further legal action, which may well involve the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice, for any unauthorised absences of 10 or more sessions (5 days) in a 10 week period

**Please check your child's
attendance
on their report**