

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Avoid taking family holidays during the school term

You can show your commitment to your child's education by not taking holidays during term time.

Holidays taken during term time will be categorised as an unauthorised absence.

It is easy for individual families to think only of their child missing a week of school, however there is often more than one child per class missing and this has a significant impact on teaching staff and the other children's learning. Teachers often spend several hours re-teaching topics once children have returned to school. Each hour spent doing this detracts from time spent with the rest of the class and pupils.

To address this issue:

Teaching staff will not set additional work - it is up to the parents to support their child to catch up.

The governing body have discussed the possibility of enforcing the fine system for unauthorised absence.

The fine equates to £60 per child, per parents. This means that a two parent family taking two children out of school for a week's holiday could be fined a total of £240.



Did You Know?

In each school year there are **only 190 school days** - this leaves plenty of time (175 days) for holidays to be arranged outside term time!

A child missing one day a fortnight will miss four weeks in a year and more than a year of school by year 10. It is important that children develop regular attendance habits at an early age. Young children who regularly miss school without good reason are more likely to become isolated from their friends.



Swansfield Park
Primary School



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Give your child the best start in life -
Every school day counts

Why is school attendance so important?

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Excellent attendance at school is important to allow your child to fulfil their potential and for them to have the best possible start in life.

These are just some of the key reasons why it is so important children attend school:

To learn

To have fun and make new friends

To understand responsibility

To experience new things in life

To develop awareness of other cultures, religions, ethnicity and gender differences

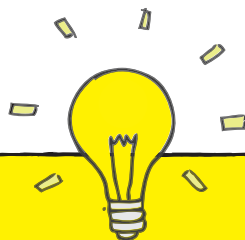
To achieve

To gain qualifications

To develop new skills

To build self-esteem and confidence

To have the best possible start in life.



Did You Know?

In reception and year 1 children learn a new phonic sound or blend every day - these are the building blocks for reading and writing.

This is a guide to the attendance traffic light system used during mentoring meetings.

100% - 96%	0 - 7 days of absence	Excellent - on target	Gives your child the best chance of success and gets them off to a flying start
95.9% - 92%	8 - 15 days of absence Up to 3 weeks of learning lost	Concerning	Less chance of success - harder to make progress
Below 92%	16 or more days of learning lost	Poor	Serious impact on learning

Any child who has an unauthorised absence at any time during the term will have a red flag.

Every minute counts: Lateness = lost learning

Lateness	Lost learning
5 minutes late each day	= 3 days lost
10 minutes late each day	= 6.5 days lost
15 minutes late each day	= 10 days lost
20 minutes late each day	= 13 days lost
30 minutes late each day	= 19 days lost

(figures calculated over a year)

Lateness also interrupts everybody's learning as the teacher has to recap



Did You Know?

Persistent lateness reduces your child's chance of success, SATs results, self-esteem and confidence will drop and your child will miss out on many exciting opportunities.