



*Help Your Child Succeed in School*  
**Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early**  
*School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two every few weeks.
- Being late to school will lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO**

- Set up a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to their teachers and classmates before school starts to help them transition.
- Do not let your child stay home unless s/he is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomachache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make them feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Schedule medical appointments and extended trips when school is not in session.

**When Do Absences Become a Problem?**



**CHRONIC ABSENCE**  
 18 or more days

**WARNING SIGNS**  
 10 to 17 days

**SATISFACTORY**  
 9 or fewer absences

Note: These numbers assume a 180-days school year.