

## Make every day count

Regularly being absent from school can lead to a significant loss of learning opportunities, potentially putting your child at a disadvantage later in life.

- If your child has 95% attendance, which means 9 days off school, it can significantly affect their performance, making it unlikely they will meet the expected standards in reading, writing, and maths.
- If your child has 90% attendance, missing 19 days of school, this can cause your child's academic performance to drop by up to 50%.

Attendance during one school year	Equals this number of days absent	Which is approximately this many weeks absent	Which equals this many lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons

The Department for Education is introducing important changes regarding school attendance and the issuing of penalty notices when children are absent from school.

The changes to the National Framework for Penalty Notices mean that parents will face stricter rules regarding their child's school attendance.

These changes are designed to ensure children attend school regularly and parents take greater responsibility for their child's education. To find out more about these changes, visit: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)



## Raising Little Heroes

HERE  
EVERY DAY  
READY  
ON TIME

SCAN ME



Supporting parents to help their child to attend school every day

## School attendance

Attending school on a regular basis is the key to your child doing well at school and will set them up with good habits for later life. It will also give your child the opportunity to:

- Make friends and improve social interaction
- Learn new things and develop skills
- Increase confidence and self-esteem
- Have better career prospects
- Achieve their potential and fulfil their aspirations

## Absences

Did you know? Absence disrupts the education of the individual pupil and the whole class. Children who do not attend school regularly can:

- Struggle to achieve well in exams
- Fall behind in class
- Find it difficult to maintain friendships
- Miss out on important and fun opportunities

## What if my child doesn't want to go to school?

Some children are reluctant to attend school or look to their parents to provide them with an excuse. Never give in to pressure to let a child stay off school, it may make things worse.

If you are experiencing problems, talking to your child's school is the best place to start. Don't be afraid to contact your child's teacher or head teacher - communicating is the first step to addressing the issue. Most problems can be resolved once the school is made aware of the situation.

## What is the Little Heroes campaign?

We understand that for many families, getting their children to attend school can be a real challenge, and many children face significant barriers.

Staffordshire County Council have launched their school attendance campaign to support and encourage regular school attendance, with a strong focus on emotional health support.

Our Little Heroes campaign focuses the message:

**HERE  
EVERY DAY  
READY  
ON TIME**



Around your child's school, you may spot creative Little Hero on display to remind and motivate pupils, as well as sticker charts and certificates to reward pupils that are leading by example and to create a fun and engaging attendance activity in the classroom.

To find out more about the campaign, please visit [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes)

## Helpful Heroes

For pupils that are struggling with their emotional health, we have created a 'Helpful Heroes' workbook to understand children's barriers to avoiding school and to help manage their worries through a book full of mindfulness activities, suitable for their age group.

If you feel your child could benefit from one of our Helpful Heroes workbooks, please speak to their teacher.

