



Leigh Academy

Ebbsfleet

YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Children and young people can become **anxious** or **worried** about going to school. You might want to let them stay off school, but it does not help things to get better.

ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT

We know that children who go to school every day are more successful. **Going to school everyday helps then to:**

- Learn
- Make friends
- Increase their confidence
- Build on social skills
- Develop future goals



It's **really important** to talk to us if your child is worried about coming into school.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN IF YOUR CHILD MISSES LOTS OF SCHOOL?

- Find lessons difficult
- Do less well in their exams
- Will be worried about going to school
- Have lower self-esteem and fewer friends



IS IT EVER OKAY FOR MY CHILD TO BE OFF SCHOOL?

Sometimes children have to miss school if they are ill. You must let your school know if they are too sick to go in. Children might need to attend a medical or dental appointment in school time.

You should always try to make appointments such as dental check-ups during the school holidays or after school hours if you can.

Other reasons that your child might not be able to go to school could include the death of someone close to them, or taking part in an agreed religious activity. Your child's headteacher will decide whether to agree to them being out of school or not.

You must tell your child's school if they cannot go in, and why not. If the school agrees that it is okay for them not to be at school, it is called an 'authorised absence'. That means they can be off school.

WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

The law says that all children of 'compulsory school age' (between 5 and 16) must get a suitable, full-time education. **As a parent, you are responsible for making sure this happens**, either by registering your child at a school or by making other arrangements which provide a suitable full-time education.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILD GOING TO SCHOOL?



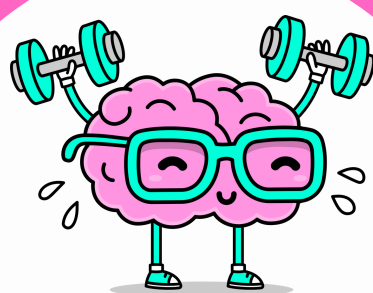
Communicate

Listen to what your child has to say, talk about their concerns.



Ask for help

Talk to the school, let us know your concerns.



Encourage and develop their resilience.



Routine

Introduce regular bedtimes and getting up times.



Be positive

emphasise the positive aspects of school, being with friends and learning.

Any questions?

Contact us: ATTENDANCE@EBBSFLEET.LATRUST.ORG.UK