



Leigh Academy
Ebbsfleet

ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

Mental health issues affecting my child's attendance

School staff are not expected to diagnose mental health conditions or perform mental health interventions, but we **are** expected to work to ensure regular attendance for every child as outlined in the working together to improve school attendance guidance set out by the government. Broadly speaking we do this by ensuring the Academy is a calm, safe and supportive learning environment where children are keen and ready to learn.



Where can I get support if my child is too anxious to go to school?

Attending school usually helps to protect your child's mental health, for a range of reasons including giving them the chance to be with friends and to benefit from learning. However, some children can be anxious or worried about going to school, particularly around the start of the new year or joining a new school or class. This is a normal emotion. If your child's anxiety continues and becomes an attendance issue, you should speak with us about why they are anxious and what can be done to support them. We can offer some useful advice and support and signpost you to right support.

Promoting attendance and support

We believe that working together with parents/ carers is the best way to result in positive attendance outcomes for our children.

We have lots of high-profile rewards and systems in school to promote good attendance and punctuality with our students.

Come and talk to us if you are having problems. You can contact our attendance team via (attendance@ebbsfleet.latrust.org.uk) email to make an appointment.



External support

The academy have an on site counsellor (Danny Ashen) on Monday and Friday.

In addition to the onsite counsellor the Academy can support you and your family with accessing support from other external providers such as Mental Health Support Teams, School Nursing Services, Early Help and many more depending on the nature of concern. All the services available have the same ambition as us which is to maximise in person learning as much as possible. If you would like us to support you and your family, please contact your child's College Team.

Informing the Academy of Absence

If a child is absent Parents/Carers must:

Contact the Attendance line phone prior to 8.20am on the first day of absence, advising of the reason and likely length of absence. Parents or carers should continue to inform the Academy on each subsequent day of absence. You can report your child's absence by:

Email - attendance@ebbsfleet.latrust.org.uk

Phone - 01322 242252 ext 2528 or option 1

Text – 07860054452

