

Success for all - nothing less!

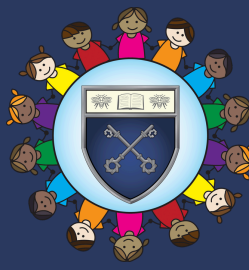
Attendance

@

Longshaw Junior School

A Parents' Guide





Success for all - nothing less!

If a child of compulsory school age is registered at a school it is essential that they attend their school regularly and maintain a pattern of good attendance throughout their school career.

Excellent attendance at school is important to allow a child or young person to fulfil their potential.

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

- To learn and achieve.
- To have fun and learn new skills.
- To make new friends.
- To experience new things in life.
- To develop awareness of other cultures.
- To build confidence and self-esteem.
- To have the best possible start in life.

Miss school -
miss out!!





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Family Holidays



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

Any child or young person who is absent from school due to a holiday will miss out on important learning and will fall behind with their school work.

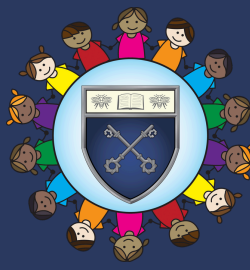
In each Academic Year there are only a maximum of 190 statutory school days - this allows plenty of time for holidays to be arranged outside term time.

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

**Key
Point!**

Please try and avoid taking family holidays during the school term.



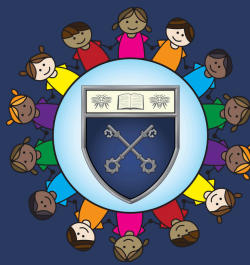


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HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

- Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time - not late.
- Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness.
- Take family holidays outside term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homework).
- Attend parent evenings and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to control difficult or challenging behaviour.
- Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school - staff are there to help and will be supportive.





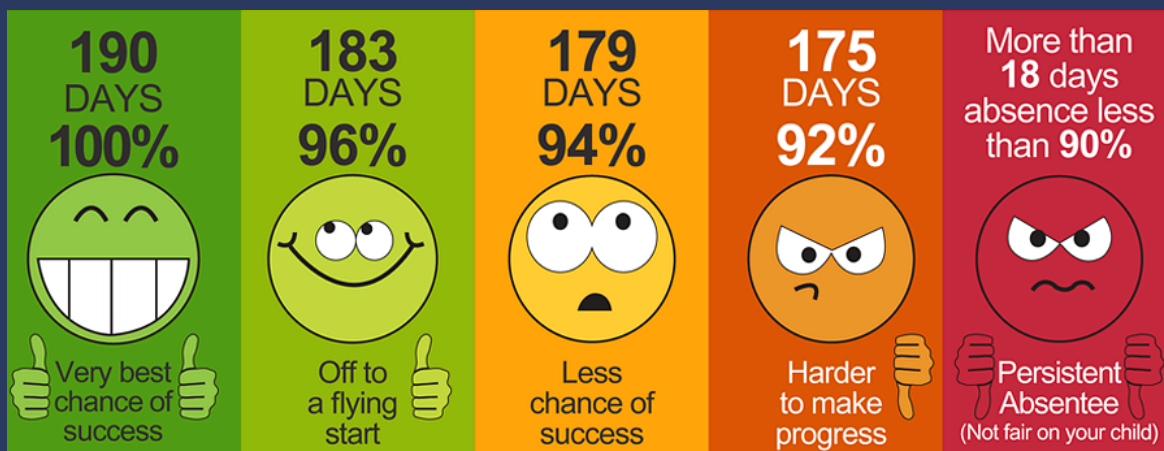
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Every School Day Counts

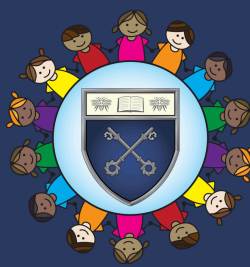
Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.

Attendance percentages can be misleading

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed
95% Attendance	9 Days Absence 1 week & 4 days of learning missed
90% Attendance	19 Days Absence 3 weeks & 4 days of learning missed
85% Attendance	28 Days Absence 5 weeks & 3 days of learning missed
80% Attendance	38 Days Absence 7 weeks & 3 days of learning missed
75% Attendance	46 Days Absence 9 weeks & 1 day of learning missed



For some parents, 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year - that's nearly 4 school weeks.



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Every Minute Counts



Getting to school on time really matters!

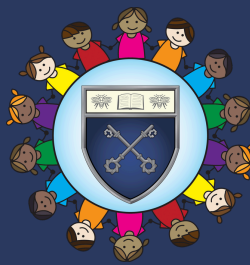
Did you know ...?

If in a school day, your child is late every day by	Your child would have lost approximately ...	or your child would have missed approximately ...
5 minutes	3.5 days from school	18 lessons
10 minutes	7 days from school	35 lessons
15 minutes	10 days from school	50 lessons
20 minutes	14.5 days from school	73 lessons
30 minutes	22 days from school	110 lessons

Please be punctual to maintain attendance.

Remember absence = lost opportunities.





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What the law says

Under Article 45 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 (“the 1986 Order”), it is the duty of parents who have a child of compulsory school age to ensure their child receives efficient, full time education suitable to their age, aptitude, ability and to any special educational needs they may have. Such education may be provided by regular attendance at school or otherwise, for example home education.

Paragraph 3 (1) of Schedule 13 to the 1986 Order states that it is the duty of a parent of a registered pupil of a school to secure their regular attendance at school. This applies to all children of compulsory school age who are on the roll of a school. As a parent you are legally responsible for making this happen.

Under Part III of Schedule 13 to the 1986 Order, if a child or young person who is registered at a school does not attend regularly, a parent can receive a fine not exceeding £1,000 in court (for each child). An Education Supervision Order (ESO) could also be made by a court under Article 55 of the Children (NI) Order 1995.

**Key
Point!**

**Education is not an option -
it’s compulsory.**



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Promoting Good Attendance



Rewards



Each week, the class with the best attendance will receive 'Attendance Ted' and the Attendance trophy that will be kept in their classroom until the following week.

Each week, one pupil who has achieved 100% attendance for the week will be chosen from each class and will be rewarded with wearing their own clothes for one day the following week.



Each week, all pupils who have achieved 100% attendance for the week will be rewarded with a 100% attendance sticker.

At the end of each term, if your child's attendance is above 96% they will receive an award. Our School Council will be deciding on what the awards will be this term.



The names of children with 100% attendance for the full year will be placed in a draw, the winner will receive an award decided by School Council. All children with 100% Attendance will get a certificate and a 100% badge.



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Promoting Good Attendance

Parental Communication



We will regularly check on you child's attendance and punctuality. If we need to make contact with you, we will give you a call or send you a letter.

Half termly letters will be issued to all parents outlining your child's attendance that term.



Termly Rewards



The School Council will discuss what rewards they would like and then classes will vote.

Attendance Passports

Attendance Passports will be issued to all children where they will closely monitor their attendance - staff will promote this in their classrooms.

