
**NORTH NEWTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



"TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE"

**SUMMARY OF OUR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
POLICY**

At North Newton Community Primary School, we expect children to attend school every day, as long as they are fit and healthy to do so.

If your child is not well enough to attend school, we expect a parent/carer to contact the school office as soon as possible giving a specific reason for the absence. If we have not been notified of an absence by the close of registration, 9.10am, we will contact you.

If we are unable to contact you, we will try subsequent contact on your child's data form. If we do not make contact with you after two days, we will make a home visit. We have a duty of care for safeguarding your child, to ensure we know that they are safe, we will contact you if we do not receive a call reporting each day of your child's absence.

RING 01278 662140



We hope this leaflet gives you all the information you need about your child's attendance at North Newton Community Primary School.



We understand that there can be tricky times and we offer our full support with attendance issues... Keeping us informed is the key.



If there are problems, we will do everything that we can to make attending school as simple as possible whilst ensuring your child is happy and reaches their full potential.

If there are any problems with your child not wanting to attend school, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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**ATTENDANCE
LEAFLET**

**Information for Parents and
Carers.**

(01278 662140)

What the law says....

As parents, ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is your legal responsibility and permitting absence from school without good reason is an offence and may result in a referral to Somerset's Education Safeguarding Service, the issue of Penalty Notices and fines and eventually prosecution.



What the government says...

New Government guidelines state that attendance figures of 90% or less is classed as 'persistent absence'.



The Government expects that to reach a child's full potential, they must attend school for a minimum of 95% of the year.

We will inform you each term of your child's attendance rates. We will also notify you in writing if we feel that attendance should be improved to prevent further action being taken. This may involve working with the Somerset's Education Safeguarding Service.

Good attendance is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of KS2 and in secondary school Key stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with low attainment.



Every minute counts... The school gate opens at **8.45am** and closes at **8.55am**. Lessons start promptly at **9am**, so it is important that your child arrives on time.

Pupils who arrive late are often anxious when entering the classroom. Arriving late means children miss essential instructions as well as disrupt the entire class and the teacher, who must repeat information already shared with the class.

5 minutes late a day = 3 days lost per year

10 minutes late per day = 6 days lost per year

15 minutes late per day = 10 days lost per year

30 minutes late per day=19 days lost per year

Illness Guidance ...

Being ill may prevent your child from coming to school, but if they can get out of bed and play, enjoy TV, they should be in school. Coughs and sneezes are not an excuse to miss school and feeling tired is not an illness.

If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea, they must stay at home for 48 hours after the last sickness episode.

Looking after your child is very important to us and we will of course contact you if we feel they should be at home.

If your child's attendance falls below 90% due to illness, we may ask that you provide a doctors certificate to verify absences. If this is not provided. Absences will be classed as unauthorised.

Term-time Leave ...

The Department for Education states that Term-time leave is not permitted unless there are 'exceptional circumstances. Family holidays will rarely be considered 'exceptional circumstances. Our Attendance Policy and Term-time Leave form highlight the exceptions.

Taking Term-time Leave without prior discussion or consent will result in an unauthorised absence. Ten or more sessions of unauthorised term-time leave will be referred to Somerset's Education Safeguarding Service who oversee attendance issues.

