

OUR TARGET:-

97.5%

A student who ends the school year on 90% attendance will have missed four complete weeks of school.

90% over 5 years at secondary school equates to half a school year.

Whenever possible please make medical and dental appointments outside of school hours.

95-100%

Very Good

90-94.5%

**Below
Expectations**

Under 85%

**Poor
Attendance**

ATTENDANCE FACTS

If your child attends school 100% they will be able to make the best of all the opportunities.

Children who have very good attendance are more likely to gain 5 or more Grade 4 or above GCSE's or equivalent qualifications.

If your child's attendance is below expectations for their entire school career, they will have missed over one year's education!

91.1% attendance = missing 17 days of school in one year.

Missing 17 days a year also means dropping 1 GCSE grade (on average).

Children with poor attendance are less likely to gain 5 good - C GCSE's.

82.1% attendance = missing 34 days of school in one year.

Poor attendance will have a serious impact on education, work ethic and life chances.

SAST

SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST



**THE GREATER
THE ATTENDANCE
THE GREATER
THE ACHIEVEMENT**

Punctual and regular school attendance is an essential requirement for successful learning from the time a child starts school

**Tel: 01747 854498 OR Email:
studentabsence@shaftesburyschool.co.uk**

Holidays

In total there are 175 **non-school** days a year. This gives families the opportunity to:

- Spend time together
- Go on family visits and days out
- Go on holiday
- Go shopping
- Attend routine appointments

In line with government guidelines, students are not granted leave of absence unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any such absences are at the discretion of the Headteacher.

Taking a holiday during term time, seriously affects your child's attendance and in turn their attainment.

Year 11 Prom

When inviting students to their Year 11 Prom, attendance is taken into consideration. If this is not satisfactory, your child will not be invited to attend.



Practicalities

It is parents' responsibility to contact the school to report any absence. Contact the school number:-

01747 854498

You will be given the option to leave a message on the absence line, which is then picked up by our Attendance Officer and put onto the register. If you wish to speak to someone in person then stay on the line and speak with our school receptionist.

- **Attendance should be a priority.**
- **Truancy Call:** If a student is absent in the morning and the school has not received an explanation, we will either contact you via our In-touch Text service or telephone.
- You should send a note into school upon your child's return, explaining the reason for absence.
- Your child should return to school as soon as he/she is able to do so.
- Students who are regularly late to school will be given a detention.
- If you are concerned your child has not attended school, please telephone the Attendance Officer so a check can be made.
- If you have **ANY** concerns about attendance, please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

How you can help your child?

- Ensure your child is fully prepared for school each day – organise your child's school uniform, equipment, homework, lunch money the night before.
- Ensure your child attends school every day and arrives on time, in order to keep up with school work.
- Show your child that you think school is **Very Important!**

The Law

The Education Act 1996 requires parents to ensure their children of compulsory school age receive efficient full-time education.

The law says that parent/carers whose children of compulsory school age are absent from school without good reason are committing an offence.

The Local Education Authority can issue a fixed penalty notice for unauthorised absence

You need to be aware that, although you may provide a reason for absence, it is the school which decides if the absence is recorded as authorised or unauthorised.

Attendance is always included on your child's report – please talk to your child about it.

Please help us to help your child attend school regularly. If there are problems, please contact us.