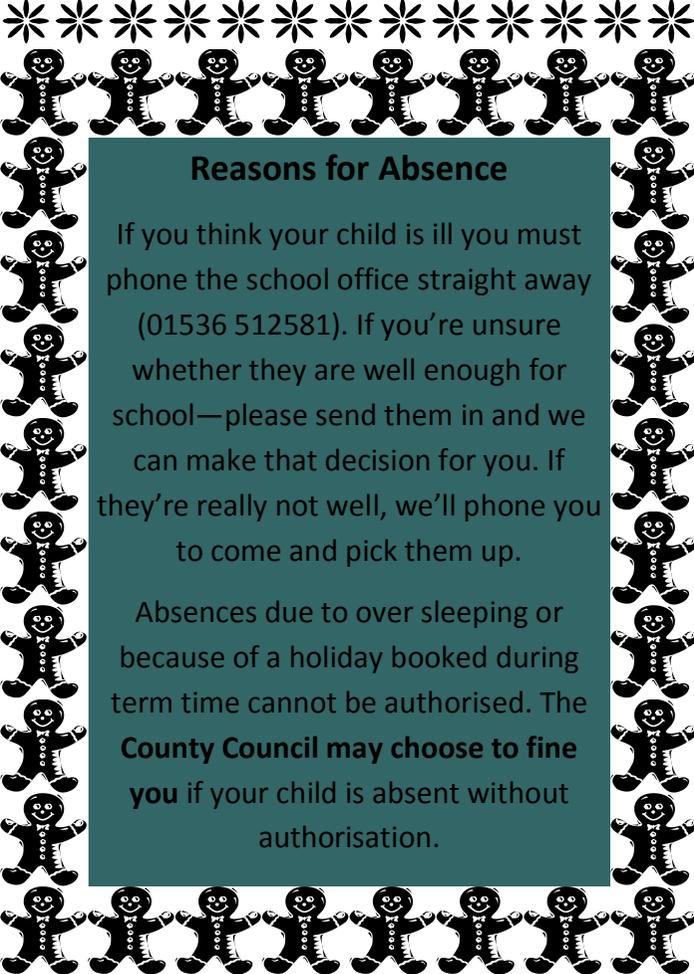


## Every day matters

We expect children at St Andrew's to attend school regularly, every day if possible. Where we have attendance concerns, parents will be contacted and support offered. Where persistent concerns remain, an 'Attendance Action Plan' will be drawn up and agreed. We may also work with other agencies to ensure that your child can attend school for as many days as possible.



## Reasons for Absence

If you think your child is ill you must phone the school office straight away (01536 512581). If you're unsure whether they are well enough for school—please send them in and we can make that decision for you. If they're really not well, we'll phone you to come and pick them up.

Absences due to over sleeping or because of a holiday booked during term time cannot be authorised. The **County Council may choose to fine you** if your child is absent without authorisation.



## What can you do to help your child's attendance?

Only grant days at home for genuine illness. If you're in doubt, bring your child to school; we can always call you if we feel your child needs to go home due to illness. And remember, we are happy to administer medication. Come to the school office to fill in a form. **No parents are allowed to take children on holiday during term time.**

Please make medical appointments outside of school time. When this can't be avoided, make sure that your child is returned to school as soon as possible after an appointment.

Talk regularly to your child about school and how they feel about it. They are more likely to attend school if they feel supported and their anxieties are listened to. If this raises any issues that need to be addressed in school, come and talk to us.

## How we can help

We can administer medication (such as antibiotics) throughout the day as long as we have your permission.

Arrange a meeting with the Class teacher, Head teacher or Parent support advisor to find solutions to situations that may be causing poor attendance.

## Every minute counts

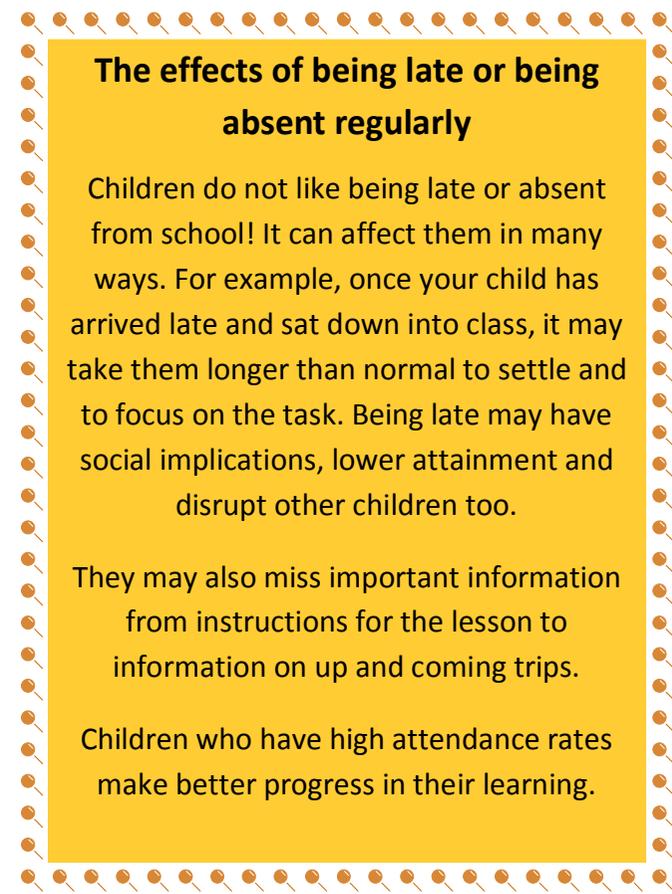
The playground gates open at 8.30am and your child is expected to enter school no later than 8.45am. As lessons start promptly once the children are in school, it is important that they are not late.

5 minutes late a day = 3 days lost per year

10 minutes late a day = 6 days lost per year

15 minutes late a day = 10 days lost per year

30 minutes late a day = 19 days per year lost



## The effects of being late or being absent regularly

Children do not like being late or absent from school! It can affect them in many ways. For example, once your child has arrived late and sat down into class, it may take them longer than normal to settle and to focus on the task. Being late may have social implications, lower attainment and disrupt other children too.

They may also miss important information from instructions for the lesson to information on up and coming trips.

Children who have high attendance rates make better progress in their learning.

<b>365 DAYS IN EACH YEAR</b>	<b>175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR</b>		175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments				
	<b>190 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR</b> 190 days for your child's education	5 days absence					
		<b>185 DAYS OF EDUCATION</b>	10 days absence	29 days absence (5 weeks 4 days) Half a term missed			
			<b>180 DAYS OF EDUCATION</b>			38 days absence (7 weeks 3 days)	
						<b>152 DAYS OF EDUCATION</b>	47 days absence (9 weeks 2 days)
							<b>143 DAYS OF EDUCATION</b>
	<b>100%</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>75%</b>	
	<b>GOOD</b>		<b>WORRYING</b>		<b>SERIOUS CONCERN</b>		
	Best chance of success		Less chance of success		Not fair on your child		
Gets your child off to a flying start		Makes it harder to make progress		Court action!			

## ST.ANDREW'S C of E Attendance guidance for parents

*Being at school everyday is very important because:*

*Regular school attendance helps pupils fulfil their potential and gives them a better chance for the future.*

*A school year is just 190 days. Which leaves 175 days to spend with family, on holiday, shopping and on those essential appointments.*

*The national average for children attending school is 96%. 90% attendance over the course of the school year is equivalent to a day off every fortnight.*

The Education Act 1996 states: "If any child of compulsory school age, who is a registered pupil at a school, fails to attend regularly, the parents of the child shall be guilty of an offence."



*'Where young minds grow and young hearts learn to care'*