



*Gunnislake Primary  
Academy*

# Attendance Advice

## For Parents and Carers

# Is my child well enough to attend school?

### **Raised temperature.**

If your child looks or feels shivery, unusually cold or hot, they may have a raised temperature. This may be due to a variety of reasons. If your child has a raised temperature, they should **not** be in school.



However, your child should be able to return to school 24 hours after they feel and look better.

### **Cold and Cough**

A child may attend school with a minor cold or cough. However, children with bad or long-lasting coughs need to stay at home. When the cough is disappearing and the child is feeling better, they need to return to school.

### **Rashes**

A rash is the first sign of one of childhood's many illnesses, such as chicken pox or measles. The rash or 'spots' may cover the entire body or just appear in one area.



**Do not** send your child to school with an unexplained rash or skin eruption until you have consulted a doctor.

### ***Minor aches and pains***

If your child has a persistent tooth or ear ache, they need to see a dentist or doctor without delay.

A child whose only complaint is a minor headache does not normally need to be kept at home.



### ***Vomiting and Diarrhoea***

If vomiting occurs, keep your child at home until **48 hours** from the **last episode**. A child with diarrhoea should also be kept at home.

Consult your doctor if your child does not improve as you expect.

### ***Sore throat***

If your child complains of a slight sore throat and has no other symptoms, they are fit to go to school.

If a sore throat occurs with a **raised temperature**, they need to stay at home.

If your child has got a health problem such as asthma, epilepsy, diabetes, or suffers from allergies, there is no reason your child can not go to school and enjoy a normal everyday school life like other children.

Socializing with their peers and with adults is an important part of any child's mental, physical and emotional development.

Most health problems can be managed in school with help and a unique care plan will be agreed between yourself and the school to support your child. School work can also be sent home if your child is unable to attend for lengthy periods.

## School Nurses

School Nurses are there to help you. All schools have a designated school nursing team with whom you, your child or the teachers can access the support or advice on any medical condition. School Nurses can also direct you to the services that will help your child.

School Nurses provide a health and advice service which is available to you and your child from the first day they start school. School Nurses work all year round so if you need help or advice in the holiday they are there for you to contact.

Your School Nurse is Carole Davison and she can be contacted on: 01579 389 198

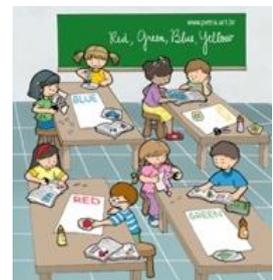


## Attendance Benefits

### Good Health = Good Attendance

Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life. We believe that children who do not attend school regularly are more likely to:

- Fall behind in their school work attend school
- Find it difficult to make and keep friends
- Be unhappy at school
- Become involved in antisocial behaviour



Setting good attendance patterns from an early age will also help your child later on. Employers want to recruit people who are reliable. So children who have a poor school attendance record may have less chance of getting a good job.



If Samantha continues to attend for only 90% of the time, in her 6 years in primary school, she will have missed more than half a year of education!

	Sept	←								→	July
Year 1											
Year 2											
Year 3											
Year 4											
Year 5											
Year 6											

***Over half a year's education missed!***

---

***Is 90% attendance good enough?***

---

## What parents can do to help?

- *Ensure your child attends school every day and on time.*
  - *If your child is not well enough to attend, contact Dawn Fraser at the school on the first day of absence.*
  - *Try to make dental and medical appointments outside of school time or at weekends.*
  - *Take family holidays during the school holiday- if this is not possible you must ask permission from the school.*
  - *Try to attend parent's evenings and school events.*
  - *Talk to your child about school and take an interest in the work that they are doing.*
  - *Contact the school immediately if you have any concerns about your child's progress or welfare.*
  - *Remember, we are here to help your child to achieve their very best at all times.*
- 

## Every School Day Counts

---

### Attendance guidance

**99%-100%** = Excellent!

**95%** = Average

**90% and below** = A cause for concern, parents will be invited in to school to discuss the matter and a referral will be submitted to the Educational Welfare Officer.

**The following reasons for absence are NOT acceptable and therefore will make the absence UNAUTHORISED:**

- *Sleeping in - please bring your child to school between 8:45 and 9:00am.*
- *A sibling is unwell or has a training day.*
- *Staying home for deliveries etc.*
- *Avoiding educational visits.*
- *It's your child's birthday.*
- *It's the last day of term.*

**Lateness**

Persistent lateness can be very unnerving for children. They may feel embarrassed about entering the class after their friends. They may also miss key information that could lead to insecurity and sometimes unwanted behaviours.

If your child arrives after registers close at 9:30am he/she will be marked as unauthorised absence unless you have good reason for being late.

***If your child is absent from school:***

Please contact **the school office** before 9:30am on the first and EVERY day, giving the reason for absence and when they are likely to return to school.

01822 832685

EMAIL [SECRETARY@GUNNISLAKE.CORNWALL.SCH.UK](mailto:SECRETARY@GUNNISLAKE.CORNWALL.SCH.UK)

.....  
*We need to work together to enable your  
child to have good attendance!*  
.....