

Your role and responsibility

You have a legal responsibility to ensure that your child receives full time education and, as far as possible avoid any disruption to their education. Permission for essential absences should be obtained from the Headteacher.

You must contact the school at the earliest opportunity on the first day of absence giving the reason and estimated length of absence.

Ways to encourage attendance

- Talk to your child about the importance of attending school everyday, make that the expectation.
- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack bags the night before.
- Wake your child in sufficient time to get ready for school.
- Only allow your child to stay at home for genuine illness.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, listen to your child to try and establish the reason and talk to your child's teacher.
- Praise good attendance.

If you have any concerns or queries about your child's attendance, speak to your child's class teacher, Headteacher or contact the Education Welfare Service. We'll seek to help and support you and your child to minimise any disruption to their education.

For further information and advice ring the Education Welfare Service on 733000.

Attendance Matters



A Guide for Parents and Carers of Primary School Children

**The Education Welfare Service
Education Department
Grange Road
St Peter Port
GY1 3 AU
Tel: 01481 733000**

Attendance Matters



A good education gives your child the best possible start in life

The Guernsey school curriculum is designed to enable all students to learn and achieve in preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

The primary school years are extremely important as these years lay the foundation for future learning.

Good attendance patterns established at the beginning of a child's school life can become an important factor in determining academic success.



Start your child off with an advantage by helping to create a good attendance pattern.

- A** Address the importance of regular attendance with your child
- T** Teach good habits about punctuality, homework, responsibility
- T** Talk with your child about their school day
- E** Encourage a positive attitude about school
- N** Notice and re-enforce good attendance habits
- D** Develop a positive connection with your child's teacher

Children who have irregular attendance in primary school can struggle academically in later years.

Children will not only miss out on learning opportunities but fail to establish routines – essential for further education, life and work. Keeping up with work becomes more difficult and it is harder to maintain friendships. This severely impacts all areas of development and their motivation to learn. Timeliness is also important. Children who are regularly late miss the start of lessons; this disrupts their learning and the learning of other students.