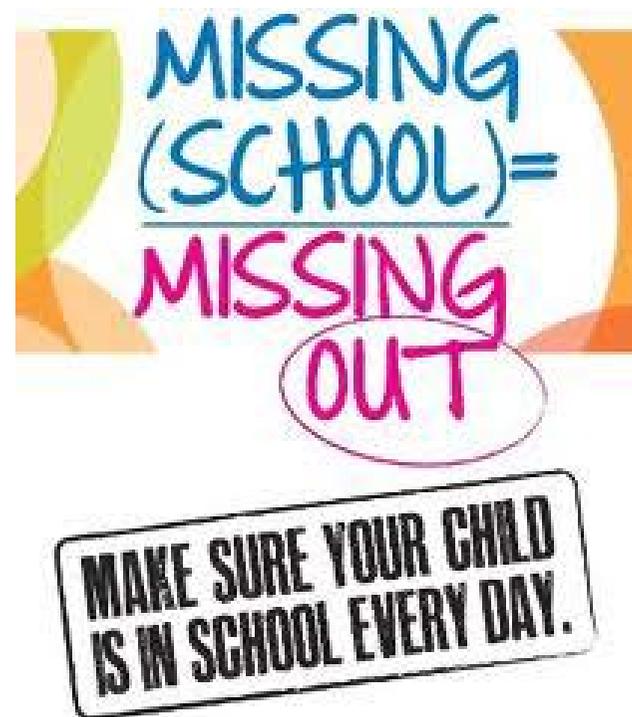


## Tips to help secure good attendance

- Talk to your child about the importance of attending school everyday, make that the expectation.
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework, packing school bags in advance and getting a good nights sleep.
- Wake up your child in sufficient time to get ready for school.
- Only allow your child to stay at home for genuine illness.
- Try not to book dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- Talk to your child about their school day and how they feel about it. They are more likely to attend if they feel supported and anxieties are listened to.
- Keep a close eye on your child's progress and seek help from teachers if necessary.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage meaningful afterschool activities, including sports and clubs.
- Talk to the school if you notice sudden changes in behaviour.
- Keep a regular check on your child's attendance record.
- If there is a problem with your child's attendance, talk calmly and listen to the explanation. Arrange to speak to your child's teacher(s) or Headteacher.
- Be watchful and supportive in the run up to tests and examinations and be aware of coursework deadlines.
- Praise and reward good attendance.



## A Guide for Parents and Carers of Secondary School Children

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

## Help your child reach their potential

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



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

School attendance is not optional. 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. You have a key role to play in ensuring your child gets to school on time every day.

Permission for essential absences should be obtained from the Headteacher.

You must contact the school at the earliest opportunity on the first day of your child's non-attendance giving the reason and estimated length of absence.

## Good attendance is an important factor in determining academic success.

## Your child's educational progress can be put at serious risk if they are absent from school.

Irregular school attendance will disrupt your child's learning and will impact their chances of academic attainment, careers choices and employment prospects. Irregular attendance also has a negative impact upon their friendships, their self esteem and confidence.

Research suggests that 17 missed school days a year = GCSE grade drop in achievement.

## Don't let your child's attendance drop

Did you know that 90% attendance =  $\frac{1}{2}$  day **missed** every week

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons **missed**.

90% attendance over 5 years of secondary school =  $\frac{1}{2}$  a school year **missed**.



The more your child is at school the greater the chance of academic achievement.

## What is your child's attendance record?

If you have any concerns regarding your child's attendance contact the school or Education Welfare Service. We'll seek to help and support you and your child to minimise any disruption to their education.